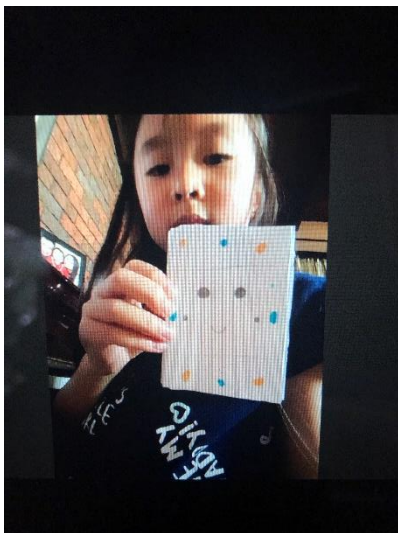


## Online Music Lessons

### What are Online Music Lessons?

In situations where face-to-face lessons are unavailable, the Cantabile School of Music can offer Music Lessons to be done online using an Online Video Communications Program. Online lessons are still done with your usual teacher and at your regular scheduled lesson time.

A great advantage to online music lessons is that students can maintain their musical progress with their teacher at the safety of their own home.



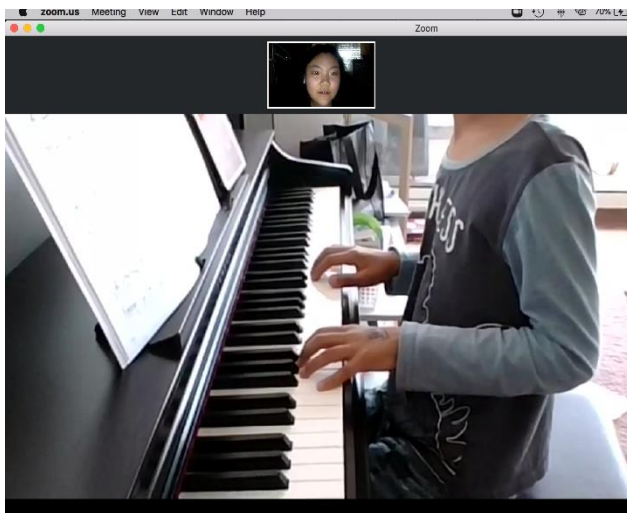
If you have never tried online music lessons before, you may be surprised how effective they are and how similar they can be to your normal in-person lessons.

Just like a normal face-to-face lesson, online lessons will still be private one-on-one. There may be a few items in terms of setup to be considered which will be covered in this booklet.



## Benefits of Online Music Lessons

**Continuity** - A fundamental aspect of any student's music education is its continuity. Musical learning and instrumental practice must be maintained for it to develop and to progress. Our online lessons can provide that continuity for the student when face-to-face lessons are not an option. Students can still be guided in maintaining good practice at home for them to continue to build their skills, regulating their habits, and cultivating their creativity. Please consider that without this continuity, they may lose valuable progress that they have worked so hard for over the course of their musical learning.

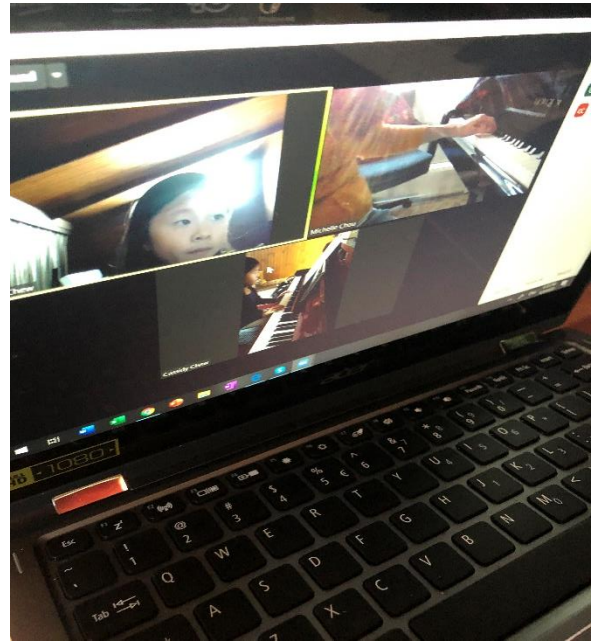


**Familiarity** - One of the most important aspects of having a private music lesson is the familiarity, connection and relationship between the student, parent and the teacher.

We are aware there may be other alternatives to online lessons that are less costly, but these do not provide the familiarity the student already has with the teacher.

Especially when students are now in a new learning environment and utilising a different method of learning, it can be comforting and effective for a student to continue their lessons with a teacher they are familiar with.

**Technological Advantage** - With today's trend of using technology for educational purposes, many students are already familiar with using technology as part of their learning. Our teachers have even observed that many students are particularly more focused and enthusiastic about doing their music lessons online. As teachers, it also gives us a new way to explore our teaching of music and to deliver our content from a different perspective and angle, which can be new and exciting for the students



**Parental Involvement** - With doing online lessons from home, we have noticed an increase in parental involvement for the student's lessons, particularly in the younger aged students. This has helped the lessons tremendously and proves that parental involvement is a fundamental factor in a student's musical learning.

## How are Online Lessons different?

Doing online music lessons will evidently have some limitations in comparison to a face-to-face lesson. Here are a few of these limitations but understand there can be other methods to work around them:

### Physical Guidance

With online music lessons, an evident limitation to the lesson is the physical element of the lesson. Teachers will no longer be able to guide the student physically in the

lessons, and therefore will need to instruct the students in a more precise and simple way. If a parent or guardian is present during the lesson, this can help to alleviate this limitation

### **Playing Together**

Due to the delays in the audio during an online lesson, it will be difficult for the student and teacher to play together at the same time. A way to work around this is that teachers can prerecord the song or piece, so that the student can play along with this in their lesson or in their practice. Another effective way is for the teacher to demonstrate the song or piece in a 'call and response' manner (method where the teacher plays and student follows).

### **What You Will Need for Online Lessons**

- An Online Video Communications program such as 'Zoom'.
- A computer, laptop or device (iPad or mobile phone). We recommend picking a device with the largest screen, but a phone will be fine as well.
- An internet connection.
- An external microphone to connect to your device if it does not already have a built-in microphone.
- A set of headphones or ear buds for better sound quality
- Your instrument (very important)
- A music stand (if needed)
- A metronome (if needed)
- Your music books, sheet music, your practice diary or exercise book
- A pencil and eraser
- An appropriate space where you will have your lesson.

## What Program We Will Use



We will use 'Zoom' for our online music lessons. Our school can use other online media platforms such as Google Hangout, Skype, Facetime or other alternatives if we deem them appropriate for school use. Please speak to us if you wish to use an alternative platform to Zoom for your online music lessons.

### Downloading Zoom for your Mobile Device:

- The Zoom mobile app is available for both iOS and Android devices.
- Download the Zoom app via the App Store or GooglePlay Store depending on your device.

### Zoom for Laptop or Computer:

If you are using Zoom on a laptop or computer, you can join the lesson through your web browser by going to <https://zoom.us>

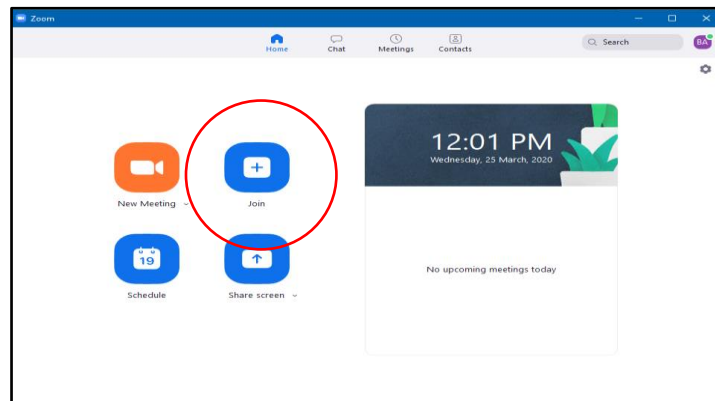
You will be prompted automatically to download the Zoom software to your computer.

### If you wish to download the software manually:

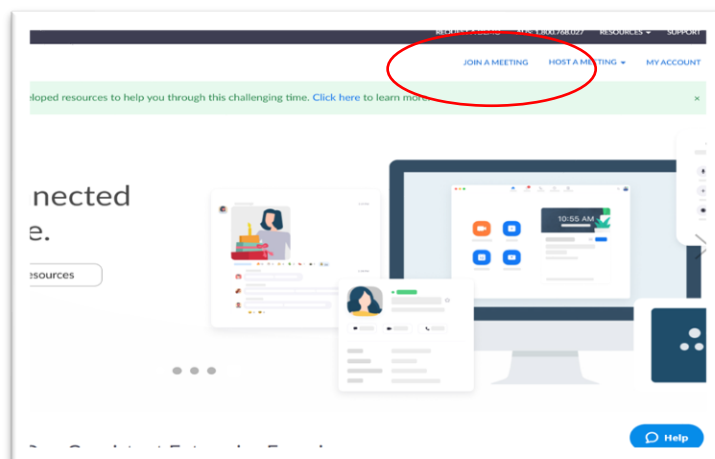
- Click the link below to go to the Zoom downloads page.  
<https://zoom.us/download>
- Click the 'Download' button for Zoom Client for Meetings.
- You will be prompted to download the Zoom application. Follow all instructions to download the Zoom application.

## How to Connect to Your Online Lesson

1. Your Online Music Lesson will be at your normal scheduled lesson time (please contact the school if this needs to be arranged for the Term). Students should allow at least 5 minutes before your scheduled lesson time to log in.
2. You will need your teacher's Zoom Meeting ID and Password for you to log into the lesson. We will send your teacher's Meeting ID and Password to you via email or text message. Please make sure you have this information prior to your scheduled lesson.
3. Open your Zoom App or Zoom Web Browser and click 'Join a Meeting'. You will be prompted to enter your teacher's Meeting ID and Password.

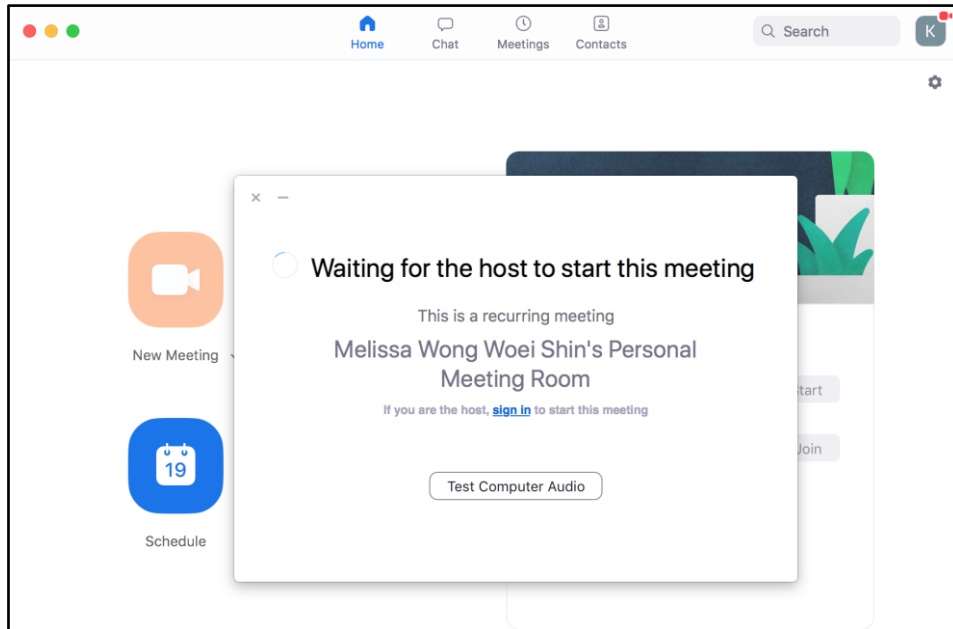


**Display for App Users**

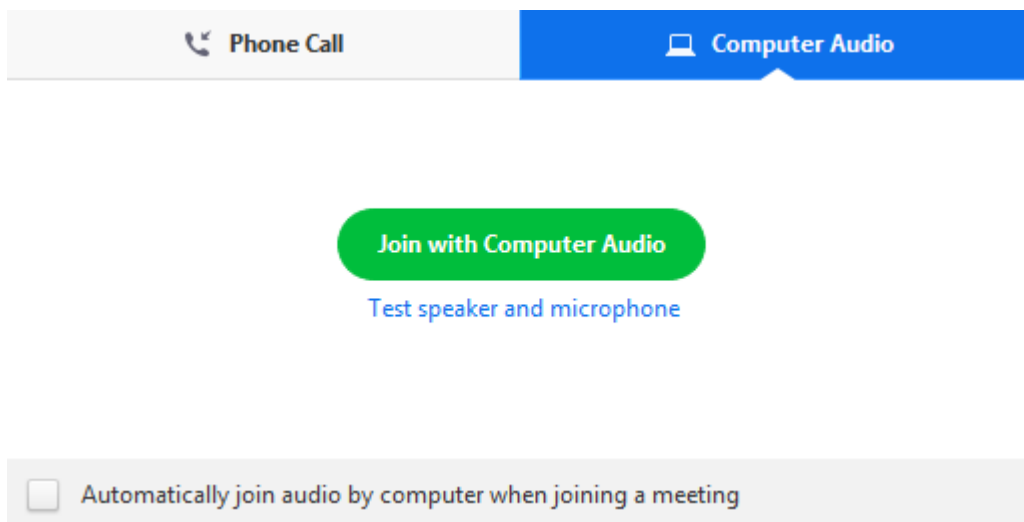


**Display for Laptop and Desktop Users**

4. If the teacher's previous lesson is still running with a student, you will be automatically placed in a virtual 'Waiting Room' (see below). Your teacher will admit you into the room once your lesson is ready to start.

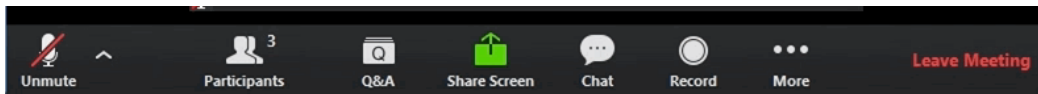


5. You will then be prompted to activate your audio with the message "To hear others please join audio". Click "Join with Computer Audio" or "Join with Internet Audio" to activate your audio.





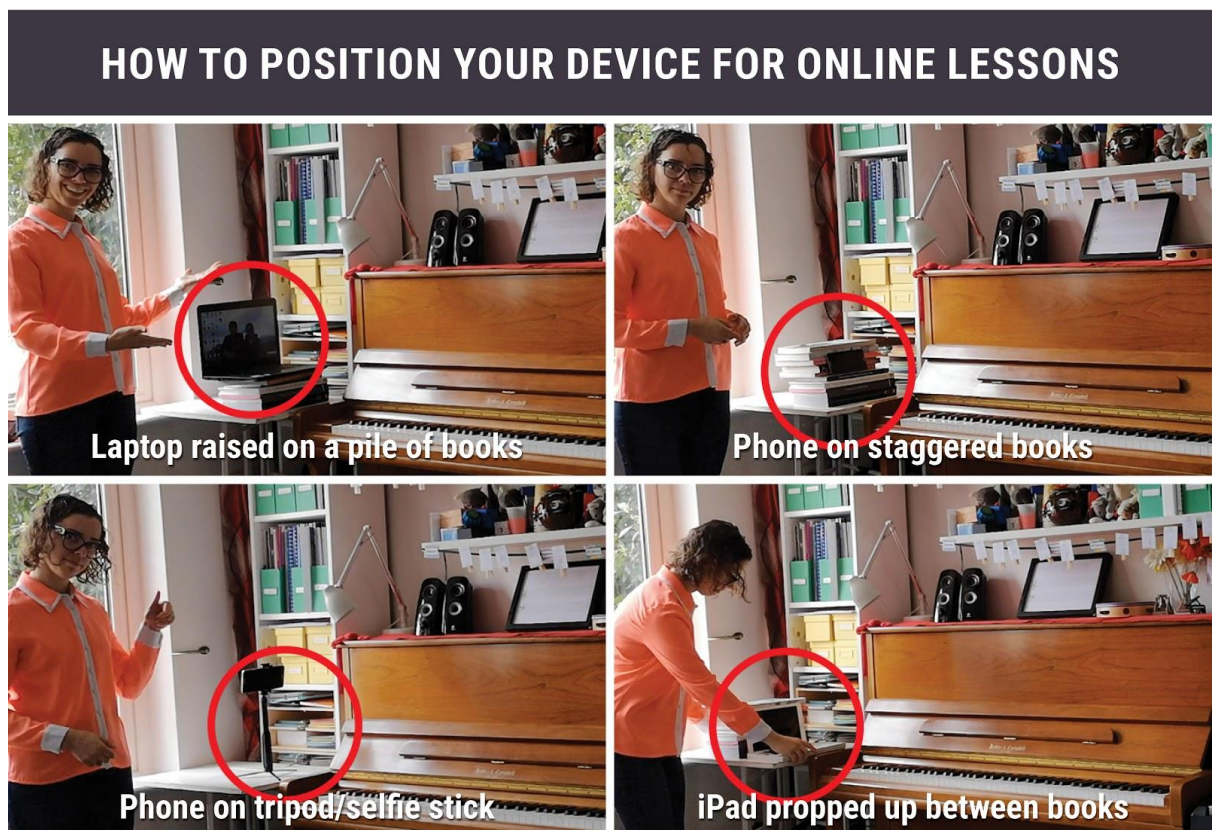
6. Make sure also to enable your camera by clicking the below icon bar and that your sound is not on Mute. You can turn this on at the bottom of your screen.



7. When your lesson has finished, click 'Leave Meeting' at the bottom right corner of your screen to end the lesson.

## Setting Up Your Device for the Lesson

- Find a way to prop up the device so that the teacher will be able to see the student's hands, and the student will also be able to see the screen.
- Using a tripod, music stand, table or mount will work, but a careful pile of books can be another option.



- Depending on the instrument you are learning, your teacher may require and instruct you to place your device differently in order to present the best



possible view for the lesson. The main thing the teachers need to see is the student's hands and the instrument.

- Have headphones ready to improve the audio quality.
- Test your setup to make sure the video is not too dark or too bright i.e. try not to have your camera facing directly towards a window. You may need to try different angles to get the optimal position for your lesson.

**Important:** Spend time to setup your device in preparation **BEFORE** your music lesson. This is to avoid any unnecessary disruption to your lesson time.

### **Have an Appropriate Space**

An appropriate space for your online music lesson should be:

- Quiet.
- A private, enclosed area - the dining room or an open-living space may not be appropriate (especially if other people are using it).
- Minimise what is behind you - a blank wall is preferable. This is just to avoid any distractions or disruptions from your lesson.

### **Internet Connection**

For laptop and computer users, if you have a way to plug in a wired internet connection (ethernet cable) please do so. If not, please tell others in the house to avoid using the internet with heavy bandwidth during your lesson time to avoid delays in the connection.

### **Parental Support**

We strongly encourage that a parent or guardian to be present (at least for the first lesson) in the student's online music lessons. Due to physical limitations in an online music lesson, younger aged students (Ages 7 and below) will greatly benefit if a parent or guardian is there to support them through the online lesson.

## **Online Lesson Etiquette**

- Wear what you would normally wear to a music lesson. Please do not wear your pyjamas to your music lesson.
- Be on time - as you would to your normal lesson.
- Please try not to speak when your teacher is speaking. Ask questions at appropriate moments. This is especially important as there can be slight audio delays in the conversations.

## **Technical Difficulties**

If any technical difficulties occur during your lesson, please don't panic and stay calm. Let us know by giving us a call and we will do our best to resolve the issue.

If in the case Zoom goes down, we will use an alternative program to continue with the online music lesson.

Please refer to our 'Online Music Lesson Policies and Procedures' to understand the procedures for technical difficulties that may occur in a lesson.

## **Contact Us**

If you have any questions or concerns setting up for your online music lesson, we are more than happy to help. Please call us on 0451 529 030 or email us at:

[enquiries@cantabileschoolofmusic.com.au](mailto:enquiries@cantabileschoolofmusic.com.au)