



## GUNNEDAH CONSERVATORIUM COVID - 19 ACTION PLAN

Updated: 15/06/2020

Gunnedah Conservatorium is very committed to reducing the impact of COVID-19. As an organisation, it is a priority to support staff through protection strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the community. To achieve this, Gunnedah Conservatorium will:

Communicate with stakeholders of the dangers of the illness and the need to take individual precautionary measures. This includes:

- Personal Hygiene (See signs and posters around the Gunnedah Conservatorium)
- Social Distancing (Students and teachers to remain 1.5 metres apart)
- Self-Isolation
  - (Students and teachers should self-isolate where they believe they are within a high-risk category or where they are unwell).

Gunnedah Conservatorium is committed to ensuring the smooth continuity of the Gunnedah Conservatorium's business for as long as is safe and practical. We are following the advice from Federal and State Health authorities and following guidelines provided by the NSW Department of Education.

Gunnedah Conservatorium is implementing a five-stage response to COVID-19. This will range from program changes, cancellations, and adjustments to reduce student activity and unnecessary exposure through to complete lock down.

### The five stages are:



Gunnedah Conservatorium is functioning as normal. There is no impact upon activities.

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Due to escalated community risk, Gunnedah Conservatorium will cancel all concerts and public events until further notice. Rehearsals for ensembles with high risk participants will cease (Decisions made by the ensemble leader in consultation with the Director).

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Due to government advice, COVID-19 cases in Gunnedah, undiagnosed respiratory illness or staff shortages, Gunnedah Conservatorium will cease the operation of all Gunnedah Conservatorium based ensembles and group activities. Gunnedah Conservatorium will

shift, where possible one-to-one and small group teaching to online learning through Skype and Zoom.

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Closure of School Programs: Gunnedah Conservatorium ceases all school-based teaching due to the closure of schools to external providers. This includes all ensembles, individual and small group teaching at schools where the school has quarantined its activities to only school staff.

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Gunnedah Conservatorium lock-down. Gunnedah Conservatorium is shut down and no students or staff will be onsite until further notice. Teaching will be done remotely with students via Skype and Zoom. Gunnedah Conservatorium will be guided in this decision by the NSW Department of Education, Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums, State and Federal health authorities.

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Please Note: - If a member of the Gunnedah Conservatorium community is diagnosed with COVID-19, Gunnedah Conservatorium will cease all activities and enforce an organisation wide lock-down. Gunnedah Conservatorium will take advice on the length and duration of the lock-down.

### **Support for Gunnedah Conservatorium Teaching Staff**

Gunnedah Conservatorium is a not-for-profit organisation with limited financial resources. In the case of a partial or full Gunnedah Conservatorium lockdown, Gunnedah Conservatorium will work to support casual and salaried staff for as long as possible. Gunnedah Conservatorium is seeking funding through Federal and State Governments to support Gunnedah Conservatorium cash-flow through this period.

Gunnedah Conservatorium will also be working to provide pastoral support to all staff during this period.

## **GUNNEDAH CONSERVATORIUM IS CURRENTLY AT STAGE 2**

The following ensembles have been cancelled or on Zoom lessons for the time being:

- Early Childhood Music Program
- Snugglepot and Cuddlepie Full Cast Rehearsals
- Blenders Choir (Tuesday)
- Singalong Choir (Wednesday)
- Some school programs

The following ensembles have returned to lessons:

- Youth Choir
- Community Choir (Saturday)
- Small groups (under 5) Snugglepot and Cuddlepie
- Some school programs

Gunnedah Conservatorium COVID-19 Safety Plan remains detailed through the Guidelines (Lessons at the Con) for face-to-face teaching at Gunnedah Conservatorium. It is vitally important that these guidelines are

adhered to for us to support a full return to normal activities and face-to-face teaching. The Guidelines have been posted on every studio door at the Gunnedah Conservatorium and the main entrances to Gunnedah Conservatorium. These have also been communicated to all families through email and text as students return to lessons.

### **Activities at Gunnedah Conservatorium and Venues used by Gunnedah Conservatorium**

Face-to-face teaching may take place providing the Gunnedah Conservatorium Guidelines are being adhered to, see Guidelines.

We need to have a clear understanding of who is coming and going into the Gunnedah Conservatorium and spaces leased by Gunnedah Conservatorium for lessons. We will be maintaining a log of people coming and going. To simplify things, parents are requested that they are not to wait outside the teachers' room but in their car or outside the building.

No siblings or friends to be in the building at all.

Please ensure you maintain the 1.5 metre rule with your students.

Maintaining personal hygiene is essential. Please:

- Ensure all students have washed their hands with soap and water/sanitized prior to attending lessons.
- Practice social distancing
- Students who are unwell must not attend lessons.