



# AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF MUSIC & SPEECH

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## Video Examination Guidelines 2026

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## **FOREWORD**

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We welcome you to join the **Australian Guild of Music and Speech Ltd** (AGMS) family. Founded in 1969, the AGMS is a proud Australian, **education and examination body**.

*“ Empowering your success  
is our passion ”*

The **AGMS** is driven to provide engaging, relevant, high-quality frameworks, to mould solid foundations for the next generations of musicians and speech & drama performers and educators.

The **AGMS** provides examinations for music and speech & drama students from introductory to advanced levels, including Certificate (C.Mus.AGMS), Associate (A.Mus.AGMS), Licentiate (L.Mus.AGMS) and Fellowship (F.Mus.AGMS) diplomas.

Below gives an insight into the values we share with our members:

<b>Music/Speech.</b>	We champion the inherent value of all types of music/speech and its enormous contribution to the emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and physical development and self-esteem of individuals and communities. We leverage our position to spread the love of music/speech and drama.
<b>Kindness.</b>	Our approach is student-centric and, at all times, we are positive, encouraging, friendly and supportive. We assist the learner to recognise and celebrate their achievements.
<b>Service.</b>	We understand the needs of teachers and respond efficiently and flexibly. Our systems and processes are simple and make exam organisation and reporting easy.
<b>Integrity.</b>	Our examination process is academically sound, impartial, transparent and delivers assessments which are consistent with international standards.
<b>Excellence.</b>	We strive for best practice in examinations and only partner with the best examiners and educators.

Via an **Academic Advisory Committee**, the **AGMS** has formulated this syllabus.

We look forward to growing with you on your pathway of excellence.

Yours in the arts,

**The AGMS Board of Directors.**

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## **VIDEO EXAMINATION GUIDELINES**

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## **VIDEO EXAMINATIONS AVAILABLE**

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The AGMS offers various video examinations for each instrument/voice:

- **Comprehensive** includes:
  - **Technical work** (Please see relevant grade in your instrument/vocal syllabus for full details).
  - **Pieces** (number of pieces varies according to grade).
  - **Supporting tests**: aural, sight reading, and general knowledge.
  - Examinations are offered **face-to-face** (depending on examiner availability), **online live**, and **recorded**.
  - For recorded examinations, please request information regarding technical work and subsections prior to the examination. All recorded examinations must be recorded in **one take**, no editing allowed.
- **Performance** (repertoire only) – Please see ‘Performance – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details.  
Includes:
  - **Pieces** (number of pieces varies according to grade). Please see relevant grade in ‘Performance – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details.
  - **Programme Notes** – Please see relevant grade in ‘Performance – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details.
  - All recorded examinations must be recorded in **one take**.
  - Candidates announce each piece and **present as for a performance**.
  - Examinations are offered **face-to-face** (depending on examiner availability), **online live**, and **recorded**, no editing allowed.
- **Recording Artist** (repertoire only) – Please see ‘Recording Artist – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details. Includes:
  - Examinations are offered as **video recorded only**.
  - **3 Pieces**. Each recorded and **uploaded separately**.
  - Videos are to be recorded within 12 months of each other and uploaded prior to exam entry.
  - Candidates may edit the video.
- **Adult Musician** – Please see ‘Adult Musician – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details. Includes:
  - **Technical work**: Based on keys of pieces performed.
  - **Pieces** (number of pieces varies according to grade). Please see relevant grade in ‘Adult Musician – Any Instrument’ syllabus for full details.
  - **Programme Notes** – required for CMus, AMus and LMus only
  - Examinations are offered **face-to-face** (depending on examiner availability), **online live**, and **recorded**.
  - **Recorded exams** may be all in one take, or 3 separate videos with each piece preceded by its relevant technical work, no editing allowed.

## **COMPREHENSIVE VIDEO EXAMINATIONS**

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Comprehensive video examinations are to be recorded **all in one take** and should be recorded prior to entry.

- **Introduce the candidate.**
- Present the **technical work** from the relevant grade. Please see the syllabus for your instrument/voice for requirements. E.g. A clarinet candidate presenting for grade 3 clarinet would present the technical work set out in the grade 3 clarinet syllabus. For grades with a substantial amount of technical work, please contact the office for a list of technical work to present in the video examination.
- Present the **Pieces** (number of pieces varies according to grade). Please see relevant syllabus and grade for full details.
- **Supporting tests:** aural and sight reading. Please see relevant syllabus grade for full details. Prior to recording the examination, please contact the office for the aural/sight reading tests.
- **General Knowledge:** The candidate should present Programme Notes in lieu of General Knowledge. Please see relevant syllabus and grade for more information.
- **Upload the video** to Youtube, OneDrive or similar and copy and paste the link into the space provided on the online entry form.
- **Upload the Programme Notes** in the space provided on the online entry form,

Sample script:

Teacher or parent/caregiver to say:

“This is Michael Smith and they are presenting for Step One Electronic Organ”.

“Let’s start with the technical work.” (Name the scale for the candidate to perform. Play each scale in the syllabus or on the list received from Head Office).

“Next we’ll move on to your pieces.” (Name the piece to be played. After the candidate plays the piece, move through the list of pieces).

After all pieces have been performed move on to supporting tests.

“Now we will present the aural tests.” (Play each test for the candidate, after they respond, move on to the next test until complete).

“Finally we will have the sight reading.” Place the score in front of the candidate and give them 30 seconds to look over the score.

Ask the candidate to play the sight reading example.

“That completes the exam. Thank you.”

## **PERFORMANCE (REPERTOIRE ONLY) VIDEO EXAMINATIONS**

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Performance video examinations are to be recorded **all in one take** and recorded prior to entry.

- The candidate **should introduce themselves**.
- The candidate **announces each piece** before they perform, giving the name of the piece and composer, as well as any interesting information about the piece. Please see 'Performance – Any Instrument' syllabus for full details.
- **Upload the video** to Youtube, OneDrive or similar and copy and paste the link into the space provided on the online entry form.
- **Programme Notes** are to be prepared and uploaded via the entry form – Please see relevant grade in 'Performance – Any Instrument' for full details.

Sample script:

Student to say.

"Hi, my name is Michael Smith and I am presenting for Step One Pianoforte."

"My first piece is \_\_\_\_."

Have the candidate say something about the piece. Please see the performance syllabus for requirements for each grade.

Then repeat to complete number of pieces outlined in the syllabus.

At the completion of all pieces the candidate closes the video with:

"Thank you for watching."

## **RECORDING ARTIST (REPERTOIRE ONLY) VIDEO EXAMINATIONS**

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Recording Artist video examinations are to be **recorded individually** and uploaded to YouTube, OneDrive or similar. All three videos should be recorded prior to entry.

- The candidate **should introduce themselves**.
- **Three pieces** are required. All **recorded individually**.
- **Upload** each video to YouTube, OneDrive or similar then copy and paste the links to each video onto the online entry form in the space provided.
- All 3 videos are to be recorded **prior** to entering the exam.

## **ADULT MUSICIAN VIDEO EXAMINATIONS**

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Adult Musician video examinations may be recorded as **three separate videos**, or **all in one take**.

- **Introduce the candidate** or have the **candidate introduce themselves**.
- Present the **technical work** for the first piece according to the key of the piece performed. Please see 'Adult Musician – Any Instrument' syllabus for full details. This should be immediately followed by the **Piece** that corresponds with the technical work presented.
- Present each piece in a similar way: The technical work followed by its' corresponding piece.
- **Upload** each video to YouTube, OneDrive or similar then copy and paste the links to each video onto the online entry form in the space provided.
- **Programme Notes** are to be prepared for CMus, AMus and LMus and uploaded via the entry form – Please see relevant grade in 'Adult Musician – Any Instrument' syllabus for full details.
- All 3 videos are to be recorded **prior** to entering the exam.

Sample script for a candidate videoing themselves:

Sample script:

The canidate to say.

"Hi, my name is Michael Smith and I am presenting for Step One Adult Musician Saxophone."

"My first piece is \_\_\_\_."

"This piece is in the key of C Major so I will now play the C Major scale."

At the completion of all technical work, the candidate announces the name of the piece:

"And now I will play \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_."

At the completion of the piece the candidate closes the video with:

"Thank you for watching."

The candidate repeats this process with the remaining pieces.

If videoing all in one take, the candidate may record all technical work first, then the pieces, or preceed each piece with the relevant technical work.