**School Event Licence**

Updated 11 August 2021

The [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/) allows schools to make both visual and audio recordings of [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/):

* + - to use at a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/)
    - performed at a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/)

for non-commercial, [educational](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/educational-purpose/) and commemorative purposes. Schools have entered into an interim agreement with [APRA AMCOS](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-amcos-australasian-performing-right-association-and-australasian-mechanical-copyright-owners-society/) and [ARIA](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/aria-australasian-recording-industry-association/) to extend the term of the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/) until 31 December 2021 and vary some of the rights granted under it.  Where we refer to the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/) in these guidelines we are referring to that licence as amended by the interim agreement.

If you want information about performing [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) at school, see the guidelines on the [APRA Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/guidelines/education-licences/schools-apra-licence/).

**What is a school event for the purposes of the**[**School Event Licence**](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/)**?**

[School event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) means an event organised or authorised by the school, including:

* + concerts, events or functions held at the school, eg presentation nights, drama or music performances, assemblies (whether or not parents and the school community are invited)
  + concerts, events or functions connected with the school at a different venue (whether or not parents and the school community are invited)
  + sports days, where [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) are performed and/or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) are played
  + school fêtes and fairs, where [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) are performed live and/or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) are played.

The following are **not** regarded as [school events](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/), for the purpose of the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/):

* + a dance festival run by another organisation and not connected with the school
  + an eisteddfod organised by an eisteddfod body (however if you are not using a [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) and only performing a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) live see the [APRA Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-licence/))
  + a [performance](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/performance/)of a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) by a professional musician (however if you are not using a [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) and only performing a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) live see the [APRA Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-licence/)).

The live performance of [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) by professional musicians and at eisteddfods (other than the Rock Eisteddfod) are covered by the [APRA Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/guidelines/education-licences/schools-apra-licence/), while the use of [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) by professional musicians and at eisteddfods is not.

**Which schools are covered by this Licence?**

All government and most Catholic and independent schools, are covered by the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/). You can check whether you are covered by the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/) by contacting your [school authority](https://smartcopying.edu.au/contact-us/).

**The**[**School Event Licence**](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/)**allows schools to:**

**Make recordings**

Schools are permitted to make recordings, which contain [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/), in any format:

* + to play at a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/)(eg making a soundtrack to play at a dance recital)
  + of a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/)at which [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and/or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) are played (eg making a recording of a [graduation](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) ceremony)
  + for inclusion in an electronic presentation (eg classroom PowerPoint slides, or in presentations at assemblies or functions)
  + to play in class for educational purposes (eg to play music recordings relevant to material being studied)
  + to use as part of a course of instruction (eg when teaching how to make or use [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) in music or multimedia classes).

Schools are also permitted to synchronise [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) with recordings made of a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) (eg add a musical soundtrack to a video recording of a school assembly, presentation night or sports day).

The school community is also permitted to make recordings of [school events](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) at which [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) are performed live or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) are played (eg parents and friends can make a recording of a presentation night at which the school band played). Note however, they are only able to use these recordings for their private and domestic use (ie they are not permitted to upload onto social media platforms such as Facebook, YouTube etc).

**Live streaming a school event**

Schools can live stream their [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/), where a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) is performed live (eg a live performance by a school band or orchestra) and/or a [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) is played, in real time from the school website, a social media platform (eg Facebook Live, YouTube) or a video conferencing platform (eg Zoom).

It should be noted, however, that if you are live streaming a performance where a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) is being played on a social media platform, it is possible that the live stream may be blocked or muted. For what to do if this happens, see ‘Blocking or muting school event(s) on social media’ below.

**Recording a school event**

Schools can make a recording of a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) at which a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) is performed or played. However, remember to label the recording in the following way:

‘This recording has been made under a licence from [AMCOS](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-licence/) and [ARIA](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/aria-australasian-recording-industry-association/) for school purposes only’.

You must also display the following details of each [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) captured in the recording:

* + the title
  + the composer/arranger
  + the artist and recording company (if you are using a backing track).

For example, you could have this information flash up in the final credits.

**What can I do with the recording of our school event?**

Schools can do the following with recordings of their [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/)(s) at which [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) are performed or played:

* + - upload the recording to the school website
    - make a physical copy of the recording (eg copy it on to a USB) and distribute it (for a no cost or on a cost-recovery basis) to members of the school community (ie parents/carers/guardians and students)
    - upload the recording to a password protected school server, intranet, or [DTE](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/digital-teaching-environment-dte/) and make this available to parents and students (eg if parents are unable to attend an assembly or graduation day, the school could send them a link to the recording on the school’s password protected intranet and allow them to download a copy for their private use)
    - upload the recording to an educational app that is being used by the school to communicate with members of the school community (ie Schoolbag, Seesaw, Compass and SZapp, but excluding apps like Snapchat and TikTok)
    - email/message a copy to members of the school community (eg students and parents/carers/guardians)
    - share a digital or physical copy of the recording of school events with schools that participated in the event (eg competitions and festivals) at which the recording was made (eg competitions and festivals).

**Uploading a recording to social media**

Schools can rely on licences that [APRA AMCOS](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-amcos-australasian-performing-right-association-and-australasian-mechanical-copyright-owners-society/) and record labels have with social media platforms to upload recordings of their [school events](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) to the school’s official social media page on social media platforms such as Facebook and YouTube. Note that where a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) is being performed or played at the [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/), the post may still be blocked or muted – see ‘Blocking or muting school event(s) on social media’ below.

**Incorporating recorded music into another work**

Schools can incorporate a [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) or a recording of a performance of a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) (ie a recording of a school orchestra performing a piece of classical music) into another, unrelated work, such as a video or a PowerPoint presentation that a school is using for a purpose it undertakes as part of its usual activities (eg educational services, religious services, engaging with members of the school community, promoting students work and [school events](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) such as school concerts, dances or formals, sports days and fairs).

The school can do the following with this new recording:

* + upload the recording to the school website, password protected intranet or password protected [DTE](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/digital-teaching-environment-dte/)
  + email and/or message the recording to students and parents (the school community)
  + upload the recording to an educational app that is being used by the school to communicate with members of the school community (ie Schoolbag, Seesaw, Compass and SZapp, but excluding apps like Snapchat and TikTok).

Note, the school **cannot**upload this work to social media.

**Sell recordings**

Schools are permitted to sell or supply recordings of a [school event](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/school-events/) to:

* + members of the school community for their private and domestic use, for free or for a fee charged solely to recover costs of staging the school event
  + students, for their own private and domestic uses, at no charge or for no more than the direct cost of making the copy
  + other schools covered by the [School Event Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/amcos-apra-aria-licence-school-event-licence/), for their own [educational purposes](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/educational-purpose/), at no charge or for no more than the direct cost of making the copy.

Any recordings the school sells or supplies must:

* + not include advertising or promotional material
  + be labelled as follows:

‘This recording has been made under a [licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/licence/) from [AMCOS](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-amcos-australasian-performing-right-association-and-australasian-mechanical-copyright-owners-society/) and [ARIA](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/aria-australasian-recording-industry-association/) for educational purposes only’

and display the following details of each musical work captured in the recording:

* + the title
  + the composer/arranger
  + if dubbed from a commercial recording, the artist and record company.

**What the School Event Licence does not cover**

This licence does not permit you to:

* + play [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) in public (note that schools can do this under both the [APRA Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/apra-licence/)in relation to the underlying [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and either s 106 of the Copyright Act (for independent and Catholic schools) or a licence from [PPCA](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/ppca-phonographic-performance-company-of-australia-limited/) (which is in effect until 30 June 2021 for government schools)
  + place copyright-infringing copies of [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and/or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) on your school [DTE](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/digital-teaching-environment-dte/)(ie you should not use any [musical works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) and or [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) that you suspect are ‘pirated’)
  + make a recording of a [Grand Right Work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/grand-right-works/)(vocal or other scores from musicals, operas, operettas, music theatre [works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/works/), ballets, pantomimes and stage shows) or [choral works](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/choral-work/)longer than 3 songs or 20 minutes duration in their entirety (eg this licence doesn’t permit you to produce a DVD of a school musical)
  + make an arrangement, debasement or variation of any [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/)
  + remix, sample or segue any [sound recordings](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) (although this may be permitted to some extent under the [‘fair dealing’](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/fair-dealing/) and [‘flexible dealing’](https://smartcopying.edu.au/flexible-dealing/) exceptions in the Copyright Act. See[Copyright Exceptions](https://smartcopying.edu.au/guidelines/copyright-basics/copyright-exceptions/) and [Flexible Dealing](https://smartcopying.edu.au/flexible-dealing/)).

**Blocking or muting school events on social media**

Music recording companies (ie record labels) and some music publishers use software to identify potentially infringing content on social media platforms, such as Facebook. When a school live streams a performance where a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/) is being played, or uploads a [musical work](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/musical-works/) or [sound recording](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/sound-recordings/), this software may alert Facebook or other social media platforms to mute the recording or send a takedown notice to the school. If you are concerned about a live stream or recording being muted or your school being issued with a take-down notice, contact the [National Copyright Unit](https://smartcopying.edu.au/contact-us/). Alternatively, you may want to consider uploading the recording to your school website or password protected [digital teaching environment](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/digital-teaching-environment-dte/).