

*Master of Secondary Teaching - Written Task*

*Jamie Gabriel*

[jamiegabriel.org](http://jamiegabriel.org)

0490896610

The things that motivate me most to become a teacher are the incredible teachers that I have been lucky enough to have at different times in my life, and the amazing learning experiences that have changed how I see the world. I would love to share that knowledge and passion for learning with others. I have also had the privilege of studying deeply across multiple disciplines (including music, history, mathematics, literature, computer science, and data science), and found it immensely rewarding. I have taught music privately and in university, and have mentored junior staff as part of my role at the NSW Cancer Institute. I have also been very actively involved in my children's education who have now grown up and headed to university. I really enjoy seeing students realise their potential and develop lifelong connections and interests. I think my broad academic background will enable me to bring a unique lens to teaching, and help me connect concepts across different fields in ways that will engage students.

I also have high level organisational and planning skills which I think will make me an effective teacher. I currently work as the Chief Data Officer at the Cancer Institute NSW, where I managed a team of 60 staff. This role required strong interpersonal skills, attention to detail, the ability to manage operational and strategic planning, and present complex content to many different audiences while balancing multiple competing priorities. While I have certainly enjoyed my career in data science, my long-term goal has always been to transition into teaching once my children finished school. My ability to manage multiple commitments effectively is further demonstrated by my completion of my PhD while working full-time.

I also have a very strong willingness to learn, evidenced by my interest and knowledge in multiple domains, from studying both independently and in formal settings. I have a deep understanding of mathematics and computer science, although my main passions are in the areas of arts and humanities. My honours thesis explored the rise of the novel as art form and my PhD is in music analysis of modern jazz. I also regularly work as a jazz musician both in Australia and overseas (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087732951199>).

From watching the webinar and discussing my chosen teaching areas with staff, I understand that choosing Music (as first teaching area) and English (as second) may not be a straightforward path, because although I have a strong background in these areas it may not be possible to point to enough undergraduate subjects. I am equally happy to make History my teaching area, as I have a strong academic foundation of subjects from my undergraduate studies.

Thank you for considering my application. I am really excited about the opportunity to become a secondary teacher.