



# Music

Music is an important part of everyone's life. In Junior Certificate Music, you will sing and possibly learn how to play an instrument. You will listen to many types of music such as pop, classical and traditional Irish music. You will also start composing.

### What will I learn in Music?

Some of the things you will learn include:

- about many types of music
- how to read and write music
- how to sing songs and maybe how to play an instrument.

Also, your school may have a choir or orchestra, which you might like to join.



### How will I learn Music in school?

Some of the things you may do with your teacher and classmates are:

- sing and play different instruments
- listen to music and discuss what you hear
- use technology and watch music-related DVDs
- use a textbook and workbook
- read music
- write tunes
- do music-related projects.

### How can I learn more about Music outside of school?

Some of the things you may do are:

- listen to music
- sing along with new technology software and computer games
- learn to play an instrument
- go to concerts and musicals
- join a choir or local music group such as a brass band or a branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann
- form a band with your friends.



### How will I know how I am getting on?

Your teacher will let you know:

- when you played or sang well
- where you need to practice more
- how you might improve your playing or singing.

You might like to ask a friend to listen to you playing or singing.

You will also do class tests which will give you a good idea of how you are getting on.

## What is the Junior Certificate Music exam like?

In Music you will be examined in two ways:

- a practical exam - you can sing or play an instrument for this exam - on your own or as part of a group
- a combined aural and written exam in composing and listening to music.

You can take the exam at Higher or at Ordinary level. When the time comes to decide, your teacher will help you choose the level that suits you best.

## Is learning Music anything like what I did in primary school?

In Music in primary school, you may have been part of a school choir and/or school music group or orchestra. There, you started listening to, performing and composing music. In Junior Certificate Music you will become even better at these skills.



## Will Music have anything to do with other subjects I will be studying?

You may learn songs in the modern languages you study. Also, you may use music in learning dance during Irish class and Physical Education. In English, you will study the importance of music in films and in advertisements. In Science, you will learn about sound which will help you better understand acoustics in Music. Technology will help you learn more about Music Technology.

## How will Music be useful to me?

Music has a very important part in many peoples' lives. Most of us will take pleasure in listening to music and many people will enjoy singing or playing an instrument throughout their lives.

Some people may even decide to take up a career in music in areas such as education (teacher, lecturer), business (sound engineer, lyricist, reviewer, therapist) and performance (composer, performer, conductor).



## Will Music be very different after the Junior Certificate?

After the Junior Certificate, you may opt for Music as a subject for your Leaving Certificate. You will continue to study the three basic areas of listening, performing and composing.

However, you can choose to study any one of these areas in greater detail.



For more information about the Music course  
[www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie)

For more information about the Junior Certificate exam

[www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

For more information about music

[www.scoilnet.ie](http://www.scoilnet.ie)

[www.bbc.co.uk/music](http://www.bbc.co.uk/music)

[www.sfskids.org](http://www.sfskids.org)

This fact sheet and other fact sheets are available to download from [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie)

**NCCA**  National Council for Curriculum and Assessment  
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