

The Music Teacher's Companion

UK Supplement

**Practical Information
for Music Teachers
in the United Kingdom**

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The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

Introduction

As an instrumental or vocal teacher working in the United Kingdom today, it is essential to have at least a basic working knowledge of the broader structure of national music education, as well as an understanding of your fundamental legal rights and obligations. In our society, with its ever-growing sense of accountability, it is important to know how we fit into the general educational scheme. Whether you teach individually, in groups or indeed both, whether you teach at home, in a school or college, whether you are paid by your pupils or by an institution, whether you are involved, directly or indirectly, with GCSEs, 'AS' levels or 'A' levels, there is a certain amount of practical information that will help you to carry out your work with more confidence.

This supplement is intended to aid you in your working life either by providing you with this practical information and advice, or, where that information may be too specific or detailed, by guiding you to the appropriate body.

It is divided into the following sections:

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1 School curricula

Historical background

Before looking at curriculum requirements more closely, it may be helpful to understand the background to the introduction of a national curriculum for maintained schools in the UK. In 1988 the Conservative government, under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, with Kenneth Baker as Secretary of State for Education, passed the Education Reform Act. Two years previously the first group of 15 year olds had embarked on their GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) studies in order to prepare for examination in the summer of 1988, the year in which 'O' levels were replaced in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The National Curriculum (the term 'curriculum' simply refers to a course of study) sought to prescribe a framework for children aged 5–16. It divided them into four age groups:

Key Stage 1	(age 5–7)	Years 1–2
Key Stage 2	(age 7–11)	Years 3–6
Key Stage 3	(age 11–14)	Years 7–9
Key Stage 4	(age 14–16)	Years 10–11

In addition, for the first time, it required all maintained schools to provide teaching in the following subjects: mathematics, English, science, craft, design & technology (information technology), geography, history, art, music, physical education and religious education. In primary schools this meant that class teachers who had previously fought shy of delivering an area of the curriculum in which they felt insecure (music, for example) were now obliged to make some effort to do so. Additional pressure was brought to bear by the introduction, in 1993, of an inspection system for schools by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED), which aimed to complete a rigorous inspection of all maintained schools once every four years. Publishers also responded to the introduction of a mandatory curriculum with the publication of a number of

teaching schemes, many of which were targeted at the generalist teacher.

Although the English music curriculum, implemented from 1991, has recently undergone its first revision, at its heart remain the three fundamental musical activities:

listening performing composing

England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland all have different curricula, and, as a consequence, different *music* curricula, although the principles and general content are similar to the English curriculum.

In Wales the programmes of study are set out under three headings: Performing, Composing and Appraising. A revision has taken place in 2000.

The Northern Ireland curriculum was introduced on a phased basis from 1990 onwards and was reviewed in 1994. The revised Northern Ireland Curriculum was introduced in September 1996 and reviewed again from September 1999. The revised proposals are put forward for consultation in April 2001, for implementation from September 2002. Music currently has one attainment target entitled 'Making and Responding to Music'.

The Scottish curriculum guidelines issued to schools in 1991 are non-statutory. They were subject to revision in 2000 and provide advice which forms the basis for the majority of curriculum planning in Scottish schools. It is therefore of particular relevance to all instrumental and singing teachers working with children who are at school in Scotland.

A series of official bodies has had responsibility for curriculum delivery in England: the National Curriculum Council (NCC) gave way to the Schools Examination and Assessment Council (SEAC), which in turn gave way to the Schools Curriculum and

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Assessment Authority (SCAA), which is now the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA). Music remains a foundation subject and is mandatory for all children aged 5–14 in maintained schools. The majority of independent schools also follow the National Curriculum.

The curriculum in more detail

A revised version of the music curriculum for children in maintained schools in England, Curriculum 2000, is implemented from September 2000. The programmes of study in the music document, published jointly by the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE) and QCA, set out what pupils should be taught, and the attainment target sets out standards of pupils' performance. The attainment target consists of eight levels, of increasing difficulty. For all three key stages, the programmes of study set out activities under the following four headings:

- controlling sounds through singing and playing – performing skills
- creating and developing musical ideas – composing skills
- responding and reviewing – appraisal skills
- listening, and applying knowledge and understanding

The relevance for the instrumental teacher

For too long, instrumental teaching has functioned in isolation from curriculum activity. A moment's reflection may lead us to see how strange it is that children have music lessons at school (class-based) but learn to play instruments outside the classroom environment (except perhaps for percussion and keyboards). As a result, they experience two distinct music curricula.

If these two paths could be brought closer together, it is highly probable that more effective learning would take place. Including composing and improvising in our instrumental teaching will reinforce both the

classroom learning and the broader and deeper understanding of music which we know is needed if performance is to be meaningful rather than perfunctory. At the same time, if classroom activities make greater use of instrumental skills the quality of learning for both player and fellow learners will be enhanced.

Classroom work should include listening to and appraising the pupil's own work and that of others. This, of course, has a direct bearing on instrumental teaching in which the encouragement to self-evaluate should be paramount. Work in the classroom can be effectively complemented by group instrumental teaching, providing a seamless transition between class lesson, ensemble activity and instrumental teaching.

Try to gain a picture of what your pupil experiences in music lessons at school, by asking them questions such as:

- What activities take place in music lessons at school?
- How long are these lessons?
- How often are these lessons?
- Does singing feature in their school life?
- What kind of songs are sung and are pupils used to singing in parts?
- Are keyboards, recorders, guitars or percussion instruments used in the classroom?
- Are pupils ever asked to perform in the classroom?

You will already know about your pupil's extra-curricula musical activities and so, together with the above information, you can begin to build a picture of the importance of music in your pupil's life. Knowing that music is not terribly significant for your pupil, for example, will serve as a reminder of the importance of motivation, stimulation and the creation of as many extra-curricular musical opportunities as possible. As we move towards more open access to instrumental tuition, the onus of

responsibility is very much on the teacher to provide the necessary opportunities, encouragement, stimulation, motivation and act as a role model, in order to allow each pupil a full and exciting musical life.

2 Contractual and legal obligations

You may like to take advice on how to protect your rights and safeguard your income. The Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM) provides its members with drafts of contracts for employers and employees, and the Musicians' Union (MU) deals directly with contractual matters associated with teaching, composing, commissioning, recording, broadcasting and performing of music. The Performing Right Society (PRS) deals principally with contracts associated with performance matters. Addresses for these organizations are given in Section 4(a) of this supplement.

All teachers working in schools are bound by the Children Act (1989), which deals with health and safety, and child protection. It is probably true to say that maintained schools, in particular, but also independent schools, are much more acutely aware of their responsibilities since the introduction of frequent and regular inspections in the 1990s.

Schools act *in loco parentis* and this, of course, means that they need to be aware of all adults in the school, especially those that are likely to encounter children. As a visiting music teacher it may be as well to familiarize yourself with the terms of the Children Act. Many Local Education Authority (LEA) Music Services have policies to back it up, and you should ask about this when you are appointed.

3 Useful publications

The document available from the National Association of Music Educators (NAME), entitled *Instrumental Teaching and Learning in Context*, is an ideal starting point for reading on this subject. There are also interesting and relevant sections to be found in Professor George Odam's book, *The Sounding Symbol*, Susan Hallam's *Instrumental Teaching* and Joseph O'Connor's *Not Pulling Strings*.

The book *A Common Approach*, produced jointly by NAME and the Federation of Music Services (FMS), also emphasizes the relevance of an holistic approach to music teaching and sets out, much as the National Curriculum music document does, a broad curriculum statement. Many LEA Music Services and other providers have adopted *A Common Approach*, and anyone working as an instrumental teacher, privately or as part of a team, would benefit from studying a copy.

For full details of these and other publications, see the section 'Further reading and references' at the back of *The Music Teacher's Companion*.

Numerous publications explaining the content and format of the National Curriculum for music are obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO). For the address see Section 4(a) of this supplement.

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4 Useful addresses

For full details see the current edition of *Music Education Yearbook* (Rhinegold Publishing Ltd).

(a) General**Arts Council of England**

14 Great Peter Street
London SW1P 3NQ
Tel: 020 7333 0100
Fax: 020 7973 6590
email: enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk
website: www.artscouncil.org.uk

Arts Council of Northern Ireland

MacNeice House, 77 Malone Road
Belfast BT9 6AQ
Tel: 028 9038 5200
Fax: 028 9066 1715
email: performance@artscouncil-ni.org
website: www.artscouncil-ni.org

Scottish Arts Council

12 Manor Place, Edinburgh EH3 7DD
Tel: 0131 226 6051
Fax: 0131 225 9833
email: help.desk@scottisharts.org.uk
website: www.scottisharts.org.uk

Arts Council of Wales

9 Museum Place, Cardiff CF10 3NX
Tel: 029 2037 6500
Fax: 029 2022 1447
email: information@artswales.org.uk
website: www.artswales.org.uk

British Council

10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN
Tel: 020 7389 3194
Fax: 020 7389 3199
email:
education.enquiries@britishcouncil.org
website: www.britishcouncil.org.uk

British Music Information Centre (BMIC)

10 Stratford Place, London W1C 1BA
Tel: 020 7499 8567
Fax: 020 7499 4795
email: info@bmic.co.uk
website: www.bmic.co.uk

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT
Tel: 0870 000 2288
email: info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk
website: www.dfes.gov.uk

Federation of Music Services (FMS)

7 Courthouse Street, Otley LS21 3AN
Tel: 01943 463311
Fax: 01943 461188
email: fms@music.ed.fsnet.co.uk
website: www.federationmusic.org.uk

Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO)

The Stationery Office, P.O. Box 29
St Crispins, Duke Street
Norwich NR3 1PD
Tel: 0870 600 5522
Fax: 0870 600 5533
website: www.hmso.gov.uk and/or
www.tso.co.uk/bookshop

Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM)

10 Stratford Place, London W1C 1AA
Tel: 020 7629 4413
Fax: 020 7408 1538
email: membership@ism.org
website: www.ism.org

Music Education Council (MEC)

54 Elm Road, Hale, Altrincham
Cheshire WA15 9QP
Tel: 0161 928 3085
Fax: 0161 929 9648
email: ahassan@easynet.co.uk
website: www.mec.org.uk

Musicians' Union (MU)

60–62 Clapham Road
London SW9 0JJ
Tel: 020 7582 5566
Fax: 020 7582 9805
email: info@musiciansunion.org.uk
website: www.musiciansunion.org.uk

Music Masters' and Mistresses' Association (MMA)

Wayfaring, Smithers Lane
East Peckham, Tonbridge
Kent TN12 5HT
Tel/Fax: 01622 871576
email: mma.admin@ntlworld.com

Music Publishers' Association (MPA)

3rd Floor, Strandgate
18–20 York Buildings
London WC2N 6JU
Tel: 020 7839 7779
Fax: 020 7839 7776
email: info@mpaonline.org.uk
website: www.mpaonline.org.uk

National Association of Music Educators (NAME)

Gordon Lodge, Snitterton Road
Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3LZ
Tel/Fax: 01629 760791
email: musiceducation@name.org.uk
website: www.name2.org.uk

Performing Right Society (PRS)

Copyright House, 29–33 Berners Street
London W1T 3AB
Tel: 020 7580 5544
Fax: 020 7306 4455
email: info@mcps-prs-alliance.co.uk
website: www.prs.co.uk

Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED)

Alexandra House, 33 Kingsway
London WC2B 6SE
Tel: 020 7421 6800
email: geninfo@ofsted.gov.uk
website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)

83 Piccadilly, London W1J 8QA
Tel: 020 7509 5555
Fax: 020 7509 6666
email: info@qca.org.uk
website: www.qca.org.uk

Schools Music Association of Great Britain (SMA)

71 Margaret Road, New Barnet
Herts EN4 9NT
Tel/Fax: 020 8440 6919
email: contact@schoolsmusic.org.uk
website: www.schoolsmusic.org.uk

Scottish Association for Music Education

Music Department, Fife Council
Auchterderran Centre, Woodend Road
Cardenden, Fife KY5 0NE
Tel: 01592 414600
Fax: 01592 414641
email: gwilson@fife-education.org.uk

Scottish Music Information Centre

1 Bowmont Gardens
Glasgow G12 9LR
Tel: 0141 334 6393
Fax: 0141 337 1161
email: info@smic.org.uk
website: www.smic.org.uk

Society for the Promotion of New Music (spnm)

4th Floor, 18–20 Southwark Street
London SE1 1TJ
Tel: 020 7407 1640
Fax: 020 7403 7652
email: spnm@spnm.org.uk
website: www.spnm.org.uk

Welsh Music Information Centre

Ty Cerdd, 15 Mount Stuart Square
Cardiff CF10 5DP
Tel: 02920 465700/462855
Fax: 02920 462733
email: wmic@tycerdd.org

(b) Competitions**BBC Young Musicians**

BBC Classical Music TV, EG30
East Tower, BBC Television Centre
Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ
Tel: 020 8895 6143
Fax: 020 8895 6146
email: young.musicians@bbc.co.uk
website: www.bbc.co.uk

Musicale Young Instrumentalist Competition

Musicale plc, Homecroft
St George's School, Sun Lane
Harpenden, Herts AL5 4GJ
Tel: 01582 460978
Fax: 01582 767343
email: info@musicale.co.uk
website: www.musicale.co.uk

Texaco Young Musician of Wales

1 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf
London E14 4HA
Tel: 020 7719 3000
Fax: 020 7719 5105
email: mccullough@bctalk.net

(c) National orchestras**National Association of Youth Orchestras (NAYO)**

Central Hall, West Tollcross
Edinburgh EH3 9BP
Tel: 0131 221 1927
Fax: 0131 229 2921
email: admin@nayo.org.uk
website: www.nayo.org.uk

National Children's Chamber Orchestra of Great Britain

Musicale plc, Homecroft
St George's School, Sun Lane
Harpenden, Herts AL5 4GJ
Tel: 01582 460978
Fax: 01582 767343
email: info@musicale.co.uk
website: www.musicale.co.uk

National Children's Orchestra

84a Elm Tree Road, Locking, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS24 8EH
Tel: 01934 820254
Fax: 01934 820257
email: mail@nco.org.uk
website: www.nco.org.uk

The National Children's Orchestra of Scotland

13 Somerset Place, Glasgow G3 7JT
Tel: 0141 332 8311
Fax: 0141 332 3915
email: info@nyos.co.uk
website: www.nyos.co.uk

National Children's Wind Orchestra of Great Britain

Musicale plc, Homecroft
St George's School, Sun Lane
Harpenden, Herts AL5 4GJ
Tel: 01582 460978
Fax: 01582 767343
email: info@musicale.co.uk
website: www.musicale.co.uk

National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain (NYO)

32 Old School House, Britannia Road
Kingswood, Bristol BS15 8DB
Tel: 0117 960 0477
Fax: 0117 960 0376
email: info@nyo.org.uk
website: www.nyo.org.uk

National Youth Orchestra of Scotland (NYOS)

13 Somerset Place, Glasgow G3 7JT
Tel: 0141 332 8311
Fax: 0141 332 3915
email: info@nyos.co.uk
website: www.nyos.co.uk

National Youth Orchestra of Wales

Welsh Joint Education Committee
245 Western Avenue
Cardiff CF5 2YX
Tel: 029 2026 5047
Fax: 029 2026 5014
email: nyow@nyaw.co.uk
website: www.nyaw.co.uk/nyow.html

National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain (NYWO)

51 Highlands, Tadmarton Park
Banbury, Oxon OX15 5SR
Tel/Fax: 01295 721020
email: admin@nywo.org.uk
website: www.nywo.org.uk

Pro Corda (The National School for Young Chamber Music Players)

Leiston Abbey House, Theberton Road
Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4TB
Tel: 01728 831354
Fax: 01728 832500
email: mail@procorda.fsbusiness.co.uk
website: www.procorda.com

(d) Holiday courses**Dartington International Summer School**

Dartington Hall, Totnes
Devon TQ9 6DE
Tel: 01803 847077/847080
Fax: 01803 847087
email:
info@dartingtonsummerschool.org.uk
website:
www.dartingtonsummerschool.org.uk

Eton Choral Courses

Eton College, Windsor, Berks SL4 6DJ
Tel: 01753 671124
Fax: 01753 671265
website: www.etoncollege.com

Musicale Holidays

Musicale plc, Homecroft
St George's School, Sun Lane
Harpenden, Herts AL5 4GJ
Tel: 01582 460978
Fax: 01582 767343
email: info@musicale.co.uk
website: www.musicale.co.uk

National Chamber Music Course

3 Grand Avenue, London N10 3AY
Tel: 020 8442 0326
Fax: 020 8372 6465
email: info@ncmc.org.uk
website: www.ncmc.org.uk

Rathbone-Dickson Chamber Music Course

31 Chepstow Place, London W2 4TT
Tel/Fax: 020 7229 0219
email: rdcourse@cwcom.net

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(e) Instrumental societies**British Association of Symphonic Bands and Wind Ensembles (BASBWE)**

17 Park Avenue, Castleford
West Yorkshire WF10 4JU
Tel: 01977 733739
email: executiveofficer@basbwe.org
website: www.basbwe.org

British Double Reed Society

9 Hamlyn Gardens, Church Road
London SE19 2NX
Tel: 020 8653 3625
email: enquiries@bdrs.org.uk
website: www.bdrs.org.uk

British Flute Society

41 Devon Avenue,
Twickenham TW2 6PN
Tel: 020 8241 7572
email: secretary@bfs.org.uk
website: www.bfs.org.uk

British Horn Society

c/o 15 Midhurst Avenue
London N10 3EP
Tel: 020 8883 9645
email: mike@british-horn.org
website: www.british-horn.org

British Trombone Society

91 High Street, Edgware
Middx HA8 7DB
Tel/Fax: 024 7671 1900
email:
membership@trombone-society.org.uk
website: www.trombone-society.org.uk

Cello Club

41 Rochester Road, London NW1 9JJ
Tel/Fax: 020 7482 4118
email: celloclub@wbruce.demon.co.uk
website: www.robert.dammers.btinternet.co.uk/CelloClub

Clarinet and Saxophone Society of Great Britain

8 Garden Close, Hampton
Middlesex TW12 3EG
Tel: 020 8979 6064
email:
membership@clarinetandsaxophone.co.uk
website:
www.clarinetandsaxophone.co.uk

Clarinetwise

Pengribyn, Cŷrhedyn, Llanfyrnach
Pemb SA35 0AA
Tel: 01239 698602
Fax: 01239 612200

European Guitar Teacher's Association

29 Longfield Road, Tring
Herts HP23 4DG

European Piano Teachers Association (UK) Ltd (EPTA)

Archpool House, High Street
Handcross, West Sussex RH17 6BJ
Tel: 01444 400852
Fax: 01444 401443
email: eptauk@hotmail.com
website: www.pianoteachers.ws

European Recorder Teachers' Association (UK) (ERTA)

19 Norwich Street
Cambridge CB2 1ND
Tel/Fax: 01223 561331
email: r.groove@dial.pipex.com
website: www.erta.org.uk

European String Teachers Association (ESTA)

105 Perryfield Way, Richmond
Surrey TW10 7SN
Tel: 020 8940 4640
Fax: 020 8940 4300
email:
marionseymour@compuserve.com
website: www.estaweb.org.uk

Flutewise

PO Box 1050, Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1WP
Tel: 01273 702367
Fax: 01273 888864
email: contact@flutewise.com
website: www.flutewise.com

(f) Other useful societies**British Kodály Academy**

13 Midmoor Road
London SW19 4JD
Tel: 020 8971 2062
Fax: 020 8946 6561
email: celiacviic@aol.com
website: www.britishkodalyacademy.org/index

British Suzuki Institute

39 High Street, Wheathampstead
Herts AL4 8BB
Tel: 01582 832424
Fax: 01582 834488
email: bsi@suzukimusic.force9.co.uk

Dalcroze Society

100 Elborough Street
London SW18 5DL
Tel/Fax: 020 8870 1986
email: admin@dalcroze.org.uk
website: www.dalcroze.org.uk

The Kodály Institute of Britain

133 Queens Gate, London SW7 5LE
Tel: 020 7823 7371
Fax: 020 7584 7691

(g) Special needs teaching**Beethoven Fund for Deaf Children**

P.O. Box 16975, London NW8 6ZL
Tel: 020 7586 8107
Fax: 020 7722 7981

British Dyslexia Association

98 London Road, Reading
Berks RG1 5AU
Tel: 0118 966 8271
Fax: 0118 935 1927

email:

info@dyslexiahelp-bda.demon.co.uk
website: www.bda-dyslexia.org.uk

British Society for Music Therapy (BSMT)

61 Church Hill Road, East Barnet
Herts EN4 8SY
Tel: 020 8441 6226
Fax: 020 8441 4118
email: info@bsmt.org

National Association for Special Educational Needs (NASEN)

NASEN House
4-5 Amber Business Village
Amber Close, Armington
Tamworth B77 4RP
Tel: 01827 311500
Fax: 01827 313005
email: welcome@nasen.org.uk
website: www.nasen.org.uk

The Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Centre

2 Lissenden Gardens
London NW5 1PP
Tel: 020 7267 4496
Fax: 020 7267 4369
email: admin@nordoff-robbins.org.uk
website: www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk

The Orpheus Centre

(A residential performing arts centre for disabled and non-disabled people)
Centre Director, North Park Lane
Godstone, Surrey RH9 8ND
Tel: 01883 744664
Fax: 01883 744994
email: enquiries@orpheus.org.uk
website: www.orpheus.org.uk