



A Music Network initiative, funded by U2 & The Ireland Funds

Music Generation

Policy & Priorities 2010 - 2015



Music Generation Policy & Priorities

VISION

Through partnership, establish a national music education service of international excellence, where every child and young person in Ireland has local access to high-quality music education.

MISSION STATEMENT

Through access to high-quality vocal and instrumental music education, empower and enrich the lives of children and young people by enabling them to develop their creativity, reach their full potential, achieve self-growth and contribute to their personal development, within a vibrant local music community.

CORE VALUES

Access Music Generation believes that it is the right of every child and young person to have inclusive access to performance music education, regardless of circumstances.

Quality Music Generation is committed to achieving the highest possible standards in every aspect of its work, and to assisting and supporting others who share this value.

Partnerships Music Generation believes that working in partnership with individuals, organisations, agencies and government departments is critical in achieving a long-term, sustainable infrastructure for the future development of performance music education in Ireland.

Diversity Music Generation acknowledges and values a diversity of approaches and structures, developed in response to local contexts. Music Generation further acknowledges the diverse ways in which children and young people experience performance music education, across the breadth of musical genres.



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Creativity

Music Generation recognises that creativity is at the heart of performance music education and promotes a creative approach in all aspects of music education.

Sustainability

Music Generation is committed to the development of a long-term, sustainable national infrastructure for performance music education, that represents value for money.

CORE PARTICIPANTS

Music Generation has identified three core target groups:

- ▶ Children and young people, for whom the vocal and instrumental tuition will be provided
- ▶ Musicians¹, who will deliver the vocal and instrumental tuition
- ▶ The community, which will support local ownership and sustainability.

Children and young people

Music Generation:

- Is committed to nurturing the innate creative and musical potential of children and young people
- Affirms the role of children and young people as active citizens in society
- Recognises the centrality and individuality of children and young people
- Promotes an ethos of socially inclusive access to music education for all children and young people.

Musicians

Music Generation:

- Recognises that musicians with strong educational skills are the essential resource in the delivery of performance music education

¹In order to be inclusive of all music genres, the term 'musician' is used for those who are involved in music education practice. Within the context of Music Generation, the term 'musician' is inclusive of musicians practising in any genre of music, in a variety of contexts, an element of whose practice includes, but is not limited to, vocal and instrumental tuition.



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- Encourages musicians to promote and maintain the highest quality of performance music education for children and young people
- Supports the need for musicians to reflect on and continue to improve their professional education and music practice
- Supports initiatives to encourage musicians to live and work in their locality.

The community

Music Generation:

- Recognises the important role that the community plays in supporting and sustaining locally led initiatives
- Acknowledges that local ownership is a critical factor in ensuring the long-term sustainability of performance music education in Ireland
- Recognises the potential for the cultural enrichment of the local community, through sustaining a living for musicians in the local area.

**FROM 2010 – 2015,
MUSIC GENERATION
AIMS TO ACHIEVE THE
FOLLOWING:**

AIM 1: Develop the infrastructure for performance music education

OBJECTIVES

Music Generation will:

- Establish structures, policies and quality assurance strategies
- Fund up to twelve MEPs throughout Ireland
- Work with MEPs in building the capacity for long-term, sustained development in performance music education at a local level, through area-based provision
- Work with a range of stakeholders and partners towards a strategic, co-ordinated and long-term approach to performance music education development in Ireland.



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AIM 2: Achieve high artistic and educational standards in performance music education

OBJECTIVES

Music Generation will:

- Work with and support MEPs in developing, articulating and maintaining high artistic and educational standards in their strategic planning for performance music education
- Establish MEPs networks which support the delivery of high artistic and educational standards in performance music education, within socially inclusive models
- Through a partnership approach, create opportunities to support the continuing professional development and practice of musicians working in vocal and instrumental education
- Work with MEPs to develop a strong evaluation framework.

AIM 3: Promote inclusive access and participation in performance music education

OBJECTIVES

Music Generation will:

- Enable and support a diversity of approaches by MEPs, which demonstrate a commitment to achieving inclusion in performance music education
- Create increased public awareness about how performance music education can achieve the goals for inclusion within social, economic and cultural policy and enable community development
- Connect with research mechanisms that inform how best to address the barriers to access and participation in music education.

AIM 4: Increase public awareness about the importance of performance music education in the lives of children and young people, and in society

OBJECTIVES

Music Generation will:

- Devise and implement an effective public awareness strategy and work closely with MEPs in its delivery.
- Engage effectively with a range of audiences, agencies and organisations.



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- Establish research and evaluation mechanisms to provide the continuing evidence base for performance music education and the Music Education Partnership Model.

AIM 5: Advocate for a publicly supported National System of Music Education

OBJECTIVES

Music Generation will:

- Design an effective evaluation strategy, the findings of which will contribute to a broader national advocacy strategy for music education
- Establish strategic partnerships to create appropriate forums and frameworks that will underpin a National System of Music Education
- Work with strategic partners to enable a foresight-initiative that aims to achieve long-term mainstreaming and sustainability
- Work closely with Music Network and other agencies and organisations (public, philanthropic and corporate), in advocating for the sustainability of a National System of Music Education.

KEY OUTCOMES

For children and young people

- Increased access to, and participation in, performance music education
- An enriched quality of life
- An inclusive approach to performance music education
- The achievement of high artistic and educational standards
- Student progression opportunities.

For musicians

- Increased career opportunities and support
- Sustained music education and music performance practice
- Enrichment of creativity and collaboration
- Recognition of the value of musicians.

For communities

- Increased public awareness and support for the importance of performance music education in the lives of children and young people, as well as in wider society



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For infrastructure

- An enriched musical culture within communities.
- The establishment of up to twelve Music Education Partnerships throughout Ireland
- A strategically planned and executed National Music Education Programme
- The implementation of a foresight initiative that aims to achieve mainstreaming and long-term sustainability.

EVALUATION

Evaluation will be central in ensuring quality assurance in all aspects of Music Generation's work. Research and evaluation mechanisms will be established to:

- ▶ Assess the achievement of Music Generation's aims and objectives
- ▶ Provide continuing evidence of the value of performance music education and the Music Education Partnership model
- ▶ Contribute to a broader national advocacy strategy for performance music education.

There are three strands of evaluation:

Strand 1: Formative Evaluation

- Internal evaluation of MEPs
- MEPs will be responsible for undertaking formative evaluation.

Strand 2: Summative Evaluation

- Combined evaluation of all MEPs, based on the formative evaluation process
- Co-ordinated at national level by Music Generation.

Strand 3: Policy Research

- Informed by documentation gathered through strands 1 and 2
- Led by Music Generation and Music Network in conjunction with identified strategic partners.