



Kilkenny School of Music

Director : Philip Edmondson

'Making music together since 1982'



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The Kilkenny School of Music was founded in 1982 to give instrumental lessons to young people from Kilkenny and surrounding areas, with a strong emphasis on making music together.

The School has two string orchestras.

The Kilkenny Youth Orchestra is affiliated to the School, but rehearses elsewhere.

The Kilkenny School of Music is a not-for-profit Registered Charity, and is entirely self-financing.

NEW PUPILS

All new pupils need to have a good sense of rhythm, be able to sing in tune, and be ready for tuition.

FOUNDATION CLASS

Most of our new pupils start in the Foundation Class, which runs from September to June.

This is for boys and girls in Senior Infants, 1st Class and 2nd Class, and builds a solid base of singing, rhythm & elementary notation as a prelude to starting an instrument.

Pupils come once a week at 4.15 for half an hour.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Some children start playing an instrument straight away without going to the Foundation Class: we take Violin & Cello beginners from Junior Infants onwards, Piano beginners from Senior Infants, and Recorder beginners from 2nd Class onwards.

Other pupils join us having started lessons elsewhere.

All instrumental pupils have 2 lessons a week, one for Theory / Ear-training, and one for their instrument.

Lessons are held on weekdays from 3 o'clock onwards, and all day on Saturdays.

Pupils need to have their own instrument. However, the School has a large number of violins, cellos, clarinets and brass instruments which are lent to beginners for their first year.

ORCHESTRAS

The Elementary Strings, Junior Strings and Kilkenny Youth Orchestra rehearse on Saturday afternoons.

TERMS

The School of Music year divides into the normal 3 school terms:

Autumn (16 weeks)	September to Christmas
Spring (11 weeks)	January to Easter
Summer (8 weeks)	after Easter to mid June

TIMETABLE

Lesson times are arranged in the second half of August.

Priority is given to pupils with the farthest to travel.

EXAMS

We believe that exams can be useful in giving an independent assessment of a pupil's ability, but they are not an essential part of a musical education.

Developing pupils' ability and enjoyment of music is our aim, not the passing of exams.

OUR VISION : WE BELIEVE THAT

~ Pupils should enjoy coming to their lessons, enjoy playing their instrument, and enjoy practicing at home.

~ Practicing 4 times a week is the minimum if acceptable progress is to be made.

~ Progress is a partnership primarily between pupil and teacher.

~ Parents have a vital role in facilitating and encouraging practice at home.

ENROLMENT

The first step is to arrange an audition.

Philip will check that the new pupil can sing in tune, has a good sense of rhythm, and is ready for tuition.

Enrolments are taken in the summer for the following September.