

TW - Tin Whistle and The Music Curriculum

To learn, take back and pass on.

Format: Online

Course duration: 20 hours

Download fact-sheet

Register your interest

To learning centre

Enrol €95.00

About the Course

Using video and audio lessons, let us teach you to play the tin whistle. From children's classics to popular Christmas selections, from favourites through time such as 'The Fields of Athenry', to polkas,

jigs and reels, the full range of tunes you would like to play and teach is covered in this course.

It's all online, in your own time and at your own pace. It is step by step, taking you all the way from blowing your first note, onwards to a competent rendition of Annie's Song, Danny Boy, The Irish Rover and many more firm favourites.

You will acquire a skill that will not only bring you endless personal pleasure but also introduce a fun new dynamic to your classroom, especially if you decide to buy a class set of tin whistles and begin teaching the children, passing on the skills and tunes as you acquire and master them. Bring the supreme joy of tin whistle playing to your classroom, if not every day, then a couple of times a week, weaving an added enjoyable dimension into the week's work, beginning and finishing each day with a few tunes together on the tin whistle!

YES - through completing the course, you will acquire the competence, confidence and skill to resurrect the joy of Tin Whistle playing in classrooms throughout the country, developing and grounding a new generation of tin whistle players in today's schools.

Go on – step up, log in and take your tin whistle challenge……. learning to play it well in just 20 hours!

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By course end, our expert tutor, Ms Gina Cullen - B.Ed / B. Mus., will have you playing everything from traditional little tunes and much-loved numbers, to waltzes, jigs and reels.



FREE: You will receive a D-Whistle and two Tin Whistle Manuals by post to accompany & support your online video lessons.

Enrol today and discover a whole new pleasure. Finally, it is truly up to us to unearth the next generation of tin whistle players, an instrument that is synonymous with great Irish music sessions the world over, from Doolin to Dusseldorf, from Ballina to Boston, and hamlets in between. You too can become a proficient tin whistle player.

NOTE:

The online format of this course enables you to study at a time and place that best suits your own needs.

You can access your course anytime until March 31st 2027.

Within this highly interactive web-based course, a dynamic learning experience awaits, where you can interact with your fellow course participants through the in-course chat forums and communication tools provided by the CPD College learning system.

Our friendly and knowledgeable tutors actively support each course, providing expert interaction, guidance, and feedback for all participants on chat questions and assignments that call for critical reflection, self-analysis, and a reasoned response.

On successful completion of your course, you can download and print off your CPD record and certificate of completion.

We look forward to welcoming you to your course.

Learning outcomes

This course aims to:

- Prepare teachers to plan, arrange and deliver an exciting, comprehensive and rounded music scheme, supported by their growing ability, competence and confidence to play an instrument, the Tin-Whistle.
- Outline tasks and activities that build musical skills, enabling children to explore, listen to and respond in a variety of ways to sounds and music.
- Explore the range of curriculum methodologies and strategies that drive great lessons.
- Grow children’s understanding and knowledge of the underlying musical concepts & literacies.
- Detail a solid lesson plan structure and approach to music lessons.
- Teach the teachers to play the tin whistle to a standard that will enable them to return to the classroom, equipped with the skills, techniques, materials and tunes to roll out tin-whistle lessons to their pupils.
- Use the Tin-Whistle in two specific ways, to provide all children with the experience and simple enjoyment of playing tunes, and to support work with children around the elements of music i.e. notes, pitch, tempo etc.
- Plan and utilise cross curricular opportunities to integrate literacy, mathematics and music.

- Assemble and furnish a library of collected music materials & resources to support and feed children's' music making, responding and composing.
- Map digital resources to curriculum expectations and have teachers do the same within schemes of work.
- Review, plan and action points for improvement in their 'Teacher Practice in Music' as part of SSE.

Modules

01 - Through instructed video/audio clips, teachers are introduced to the first set of note playing, i.e., B, A, G, F sharp, E, D, and a suite of tunes composed of these notes, for practice & skill-building. Note values such as crotchets, minims and quavers are also covered.

We explore and contextualise the opportunities for the tin whistle to exemplify the musical elements within the primary school music curriculum, and thereafter suggest a variety of cross-curricular opportunities for Music, encouraging teachers to actively seek, find, and make authentic linkages and integrations.

02 - Begins with revision of notes and more practice tunes for the first suite of notes, followed by introduction of C sharp and scale playing, all embedded and reinforced with learning to play the Princess Waltz, the Ballerina Waltz and other well-known tunes. We explore approaches to performing tunes in a classroom setting with tuned

and untuned instruments.

We examine the possibilities for the tin whistle within the range of approaches and methodologies used to deliver the music curriculum, itemising activities that might underpin and guide children in ‘Listening and Responding to Music’.

03 - We continue with note introduction, covering Note C natural, Note high E, High F sharp and High G , again practiced thereafter within tunes such as Skip to My Lou, Óró Sé Do Bheatha Abhaile, Little Brown Jug, Maggie in the Wood and Dawning of the Day, all tunes exemplifying the notes taught to this stage.

We review the required approach to planning successful music-making and appreciation in the classroom, and the potential opportunities for the Tin Whistle within the mix, including activities such as singing songs and directed viewing of animated stories.

04 - In this module, we grow your repertoire of tunes, providing plenty of practice, fun and enjoyment, building both confidence and competence in equal measure. The suite of tunes that comprises the module is divided into three categories, notably The Children's Collection , Christmas Classics and Favourites Through Time , dozens of tunes to entertain you and all those within earshot!

05 - Predominantly concerned with progressing, refining and honing newly acquired skill sets. A wide range of songs is now presented to lay down & build each teacher's repertoire for the classroom, e.g., Spancil Hill, Boolavogue, The Foggy Dew, Kelly of Killanne, along with Polkas, jigs, and reels, allowing each individual participant to reach as high a level of accomplishment as feasible. We propose and review the resources that a teacher/school enthusiastic about music education would typically possess or tap.

' /-->*/ Loved every minute of it! I have no suggestions, it was well paced as well as accommodating for both those who need to slow down playing and also for those who want to challenge themselves more for each song. Thank you so much!'* - Stephanie, 2025