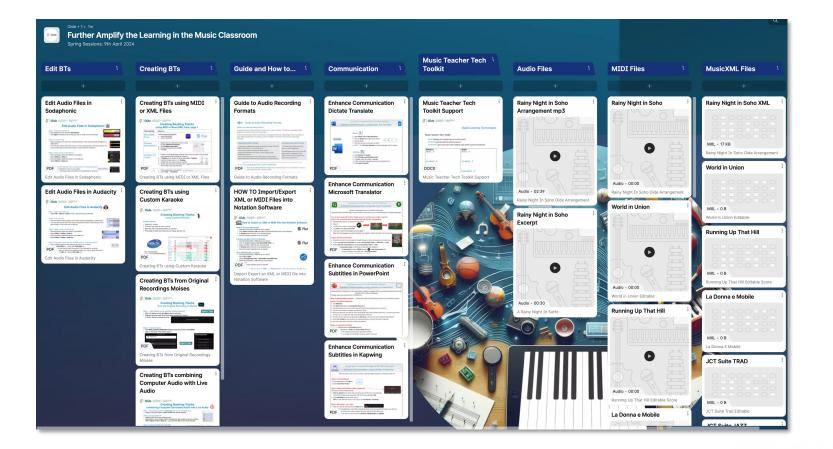
## Welcome! You are now logged in



#### Before we begin, please download the supports below...





#### https://bit.ly/DLTinMusic



Oide

Tacú leis an bhFoghlaim Ghairmiúil i measc Ceannairí Scoile agus Múinteoirí

m Supporting the Professional annairí Learning of School Leaders and Teachers

# Further Amplify the Learning

Spring Sessions Tuesday, 09<sup>th</sup> April 2024





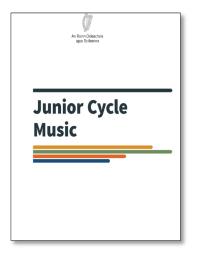
#### Learning together we will...

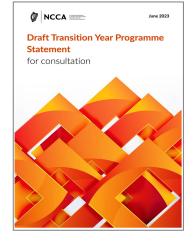


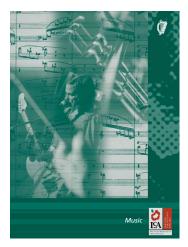
- explore the sourcing, editing and creation of backing tracks to support students' practical performance
- consider how the creation of a suite of DLT tools can support learning, teaching and assessment

#### **Key Documents**









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MUSIC SYLLABUS (HIGHER LEVEL and ORDINARY LEVEL)

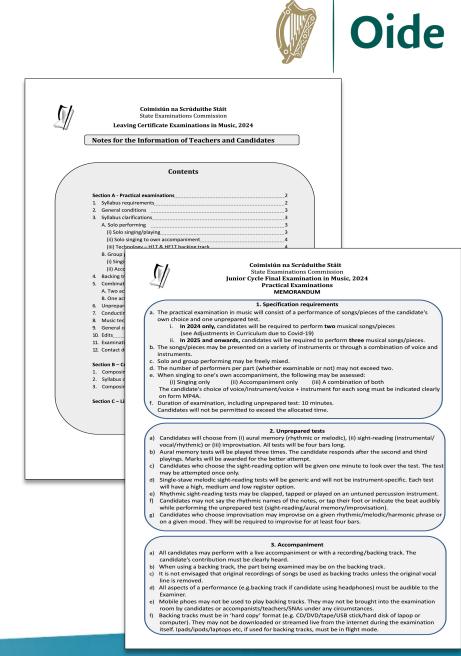
	Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission Leaving Certificate Examinations in Music, 2024		
N	otes for the Information of Teachers and Candida	ates	
	Contents		
Se	ection A - Practical examinations		
1.	Syllabus requirements		
2.	General conditions		
3.	Syllabus clarifications		
	A. Solo performing		
	(i) Solo singing/playing		
	(ii) Solo singing to own accompaniment		
	(iii) Technology – H1T & HE1T backing track		
	B. Group performing		
	(i) Singing/playing as a member of a group		
	(ii) Accompanying		
4.	Backing tracks		
э.	CombinationsA. Two activities		
	B. One activity (instrumental combinations)		
6.	Unprepared tests		
	Conducting		
8.	Music technology examination – format of the examination		
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Se	ection B – Composing		
	Composing paper		
2.			
	Composing Elective		
	ection C – Listening Elective		

LC Music Information Note 2024

#### Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission Junior Cycle Final Examination in Music, 2024 Practical Examinations MEMORANDUM 1. Specification requirements a. The practical examination in music will consist of a performance of songs/pieces of the candidate's own choice and one unprepared test. i. In 2024 only, candidates will be required to perform two musical songs/pieces (see Adjustments in Curriculum due to Covid-19) ii. In 2025 and onwards, candidates will be required to perform three musical songs/pieces. b. The songs/pieces may be presented on a variety of instruments or through a combination of voice and instruments. c. Solo and group performing may be freely mixed. d. The number of performers per part (whether examinable or not) may not exceed two. e. When singing to one's own accompaniment, the following may be assessed: (i) Singing only (ii) Accompaniment only (iii) A combination of both The candidate's choice of voice/instrument/voice + instrument for each song must be indicated clearly on form MP4A f. Duration of examination, including unprepared test: 10 minutes. Candidates will not be permitted to exceed the allocated time. 2. Unprepared tests a) Candidates will choose from (i) aural memory (rhythmic or melodic), (ii) sight-reading (instrumental/ vocal/rhythmic) or (iii) improvisation. All tests will be four bars long. b) Aural memory tests will be played three times. The candidate responds after the second and third playings. Marks will be awarded for the better attempt. c) Candidates who choose the sight-reading option will be given one minute to look over the test. The test may be attempted once only. d) Single-stave melodic sight-reading tests will be generic and will not be instrument-specific. Each test will have a high, medium and low register option. e) Rhythmic sight-reading tests may be clapped, tapped or played on an untuned percussion instrument. f) Candidates may not say the rhythmic names of the notes, or tap their foot or indicate the beat audibly while performing the unprepared test (sight-reading/aural memory/improvisation). g) Candidates who choose improvisation may improvise on a given rhythmic/melodic/harmonic phrase or on a given mood. They will be required to improvise for at least four bars. 3. Accompaniment a) All candidates may perform with a live accompaniment or with a recording/backing track. The candidate's contribution must be clearly heard. b) When using a backing track, the part being examined may be on the backing track. c) It is not envisaged that original recordings of songs be used as backing tracks unless the original vocal line is removed d) All aspects of a performance (e.g. backing track if candidate using headphones) must be audible to the Examiner e) Mobile phoes may not be used to play backing tracks. They may not be brought into the examination room by candidates or accompanists/teachers/SNAs under any circumstances. JC Music Memorandum 2024

#### Teacher Talk – Any Questions?

- Solo performing with a backing track
- Solo Singing to Own Accompaniment
   No backing track
- Singing/Playing as a member of a group
   Melody must be live
- Using original recording with vocal line removed



### Leaving Certificate HE1T

- Compile and play to own backing track
- At least 32 bars long
- At least 3 parts for HE1T (1 part for H1T)
- Describe the process: Computer? Sequencer? Live Musicians?
- Number of tracks
- Instruments or sounds chosen for each track and reasons for choice
- Difficulties (if any) encountered e.g., with balance
- Play the backing track
- Perform to the backing track





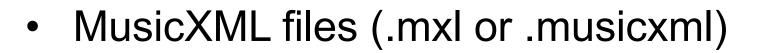
## **Common File Types for Music**

#### Audio files = Sound

- Uncompressed: wav, aiff
- Compressed: mp3, m4a

#### MIDI and MusicXML = Data (Note, Rhythm etc.,)

• Midi files (.mid)





#### Guide to Audio Recording Formats What is an audio recording format? An audio format is a file format which stores music on your computer. This document provides a brief explanation of some of the main format types Audio formats belong to either Compressed or Uncompressed formats, depending on how they store the data. Where possible when recording, record in 44,100Khz and 16 bit (minimum) for studio grade recording. Compressed Audio Formats Uncompressed Audio Formats ... compress the digital audio quality to produce a smaller file which ... are bulky files and take up a lot of takes up less space on your storage drive. space on your storage drive. There are two types of compressed audio formats: The advantage of this format is that the Lossless Compressed Audio Format: no loss of data during digital audio is unchanged, so the compression process. quality remains intact no matter how Lossy Compressed Audio Formats: Will reduce audio quality by many times you process it. eliminating certain information and frequencies to reduce file size Commonly used audio formats include the following: AAC The Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) format stores lossy compressed audio. It is an alternative to mp3 as it offers better quality than mp3 at lower size files. AIFF The Audio Interchange File Format (AIFF) is an uncompressed audio format. Commonly used for professional audio application ALAC The Apple Lossless Audio Codec (ALAC) format used on iTunes and iOS has no loss in quality when compressing data. FLAC Free Lossless Audio Codec (FLAC) is an audio format similar to mp3, but lossless, meaning that there is no loss in quality when compressed. M4A MPEG 4 Audio (M4A) is an audio-compressed file. File quality is better than MPEG format. Programs that open M4A files include iTunes, QuickTime, Windows Media Player. MP3 The MPEG Audio Layer 3 (MP3) format uses a lossy compressed format. It reduces the file size by omitting data from the file. It is useful when storing large quantities of music without taking up too much storage space and has adequate quality MPEG Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) is an audio file format used on cross-platform software and is a suitable format for video editing. It is possible to transfer this file into audio editing software and edit the audio only WAV The Wayform or WAV audio format stores uncompressed audio data. There is no loss of audio guality using this format. This format can be easily edited and processed WMA The Windows Media Audio (WMA) format is a lossy compressed audio format used with Windows Media Audio. It retains the original audio quality with no removal of data when decompressed and played back 🕒 oide.ie nfo@oide.ie 000

### File Types for Music explained



- WAV/AIFF audio format stores uncompressed audio data. There is no loss of audio quality using this format and it can be easily edited and processed
- MP3 audio format reduces the file size by omitting data from the file. It is useful when storing large quantities of music without taking up too much storage space and has adequate quality
- M4A audio format has a higher quality than mp3. Programs that open M4A files include iTunes, QuickTime, and Windows Media Player
- MIDI unlike wav/aiff, mp3 or m4a do not contain any audio but communicate data such as notes, rhythms, velocities etc. Midi instructs connected devices like computers or synthesizers to generate music. They are useful for playing compositions on a computer or digital instrument
- MusicXML are sheet music files that can be opened in and shared between notation software such as Musescore, Finale, Sibelius, Flat.io etc.

#### Where can we source backing tracks?



## Irish Copyright Licensing Agency

 <u>https://www.icla.ie/licences/primary-and-post-primary-</u> <u>schools-licences</u>

## Sourcing Non-editable Backing Tracks



- Tracks can be downloaded not streamed
- Paid subscription required
- Not accessible as an mp3/wav to be edited
- Played only from the app
- Organise backing tracks in playlists









### Sourcing Editable Backing Tracks



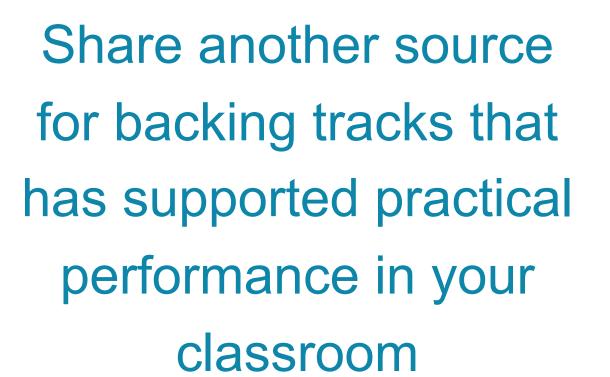
Track can be purchased outright, downloaded and then edited







**Teacher Talk** 

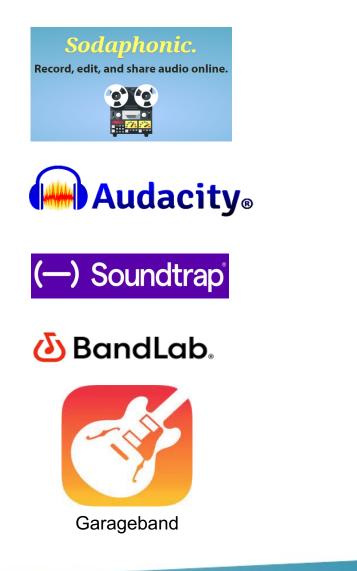






## Editing Backing Tracks – mp3/m4a/wav

- Uploading/Opening
- Trim
- Fade In/Out
- Cut/Copy/Paste
- Change Key
- Change Tempo
- Adjust volume
- Export



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#### **Creating Backing Tracks** Using Original mp3/m4a Recordings

#### Moises.ai

- Upload mp3/m4a of original track
- Mute or solo any combination of instruments (vocals, guitar, bass, drums, 'other' only in free version)
- Change key/tempo
- Export backing track

	M S Vocals	
2	M s Drums	
	M S Bass	
	M S Other	



Sten 2 - Senarate track

e.g., the vocals

118

💿 oide

Step 3 – Create a mix and adjust key and/or tempo Click on the M to mute any tracks that you do not want in the backing tracks

Click Export then select file type and click Export Mix

🖄 info@oide.i

Adjust the tempo and key if required

Step 4 – Export the final mix

= Ar

#### Creating Backing Tracks Using Custom Karaoke Tracks

- Instruments?
- Key?
- Tempo?
- Export



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**Teacher Talk** 

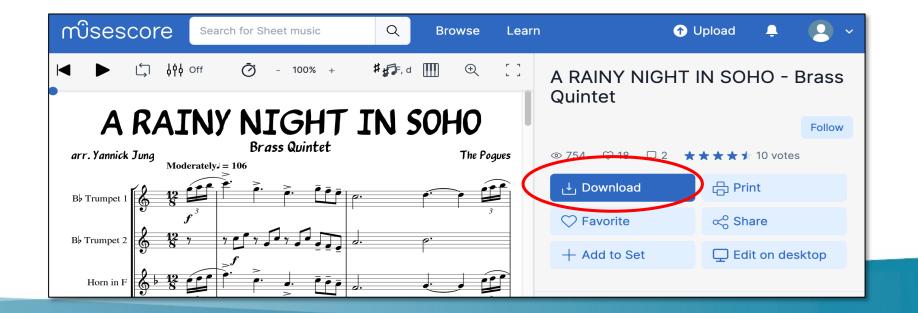




What learning does the sourcing, editing and creating of backing tracks support for our students?

## Sourcing MIDI and MusicXML files

- Create your own in Notation Software or a DAW
- Oide Music Ensemble Scores MIDI or MusicXML
- Download from sites such as musescore.com, cpdl.org, songgalaxy.com, thesession.org, freemidi.org





& CPDL



Sing with the stars

Share another source for MIDI or MusicXML files that has supported practical performance in your classroom

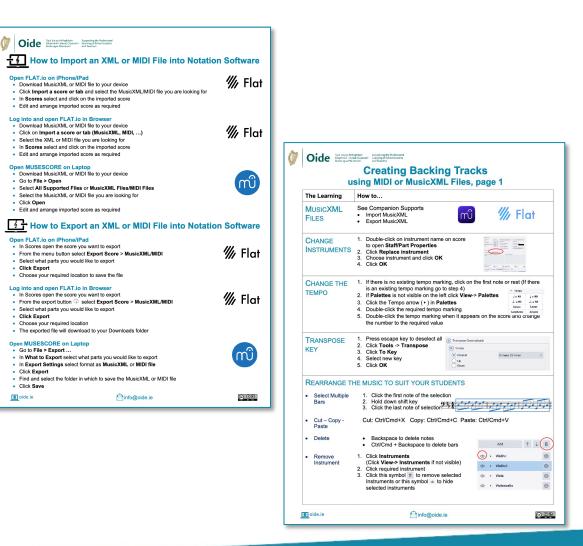




#### **Teacher Talk**

#### Creating Backing Tracks Using MIDI or MusicXML Files

- Open/Import your MIDI or MusicXML file in your chosen notation software
- Arrange the track e.g., add a count-in, change the key
- Mute the instrument(s) that will play solo against the backing track
- Export the track in your required audio format



What learning does the creation of backing tracks using MIDI and MusicXML files support for our students?

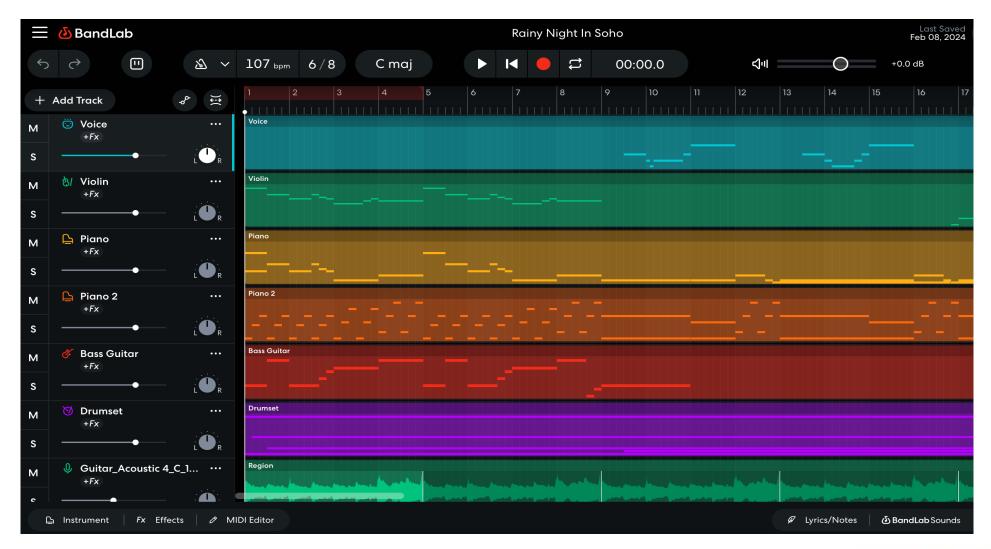






# **Sour of the Interface**





- Creating Backing Tracks Combining Computer Generated Audio with Live Audio
  - Import a MIDI file
  - Tidy up the MIDI file
  - Set up audio tracks
  - Record audio
  - Balance the tracks
  - Export an audio file
  - Consider other possibilities







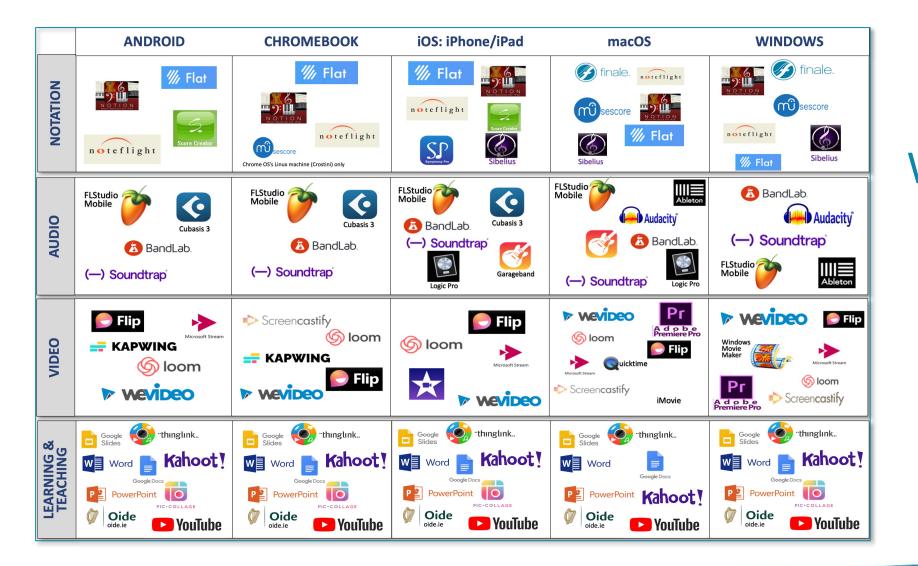
What learning does the creation of backing tracks using notation software and/or a DAW support for our students?







#### Guide to Cross-Platform Hardware & Software

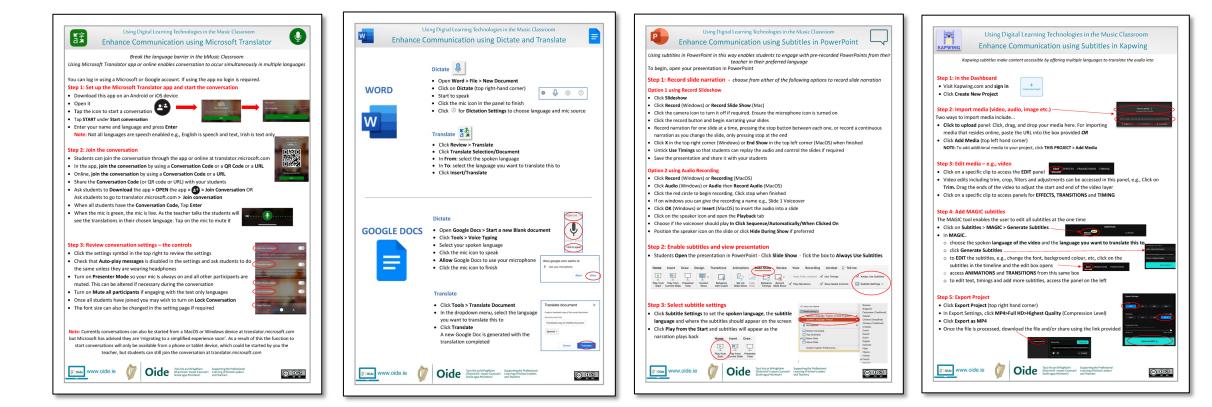


What technology corresponds to your school context?

Oide

#### Enhancing Communication Translation/Dictation Tools





### Music Teacher Tech Toolkit, Why?



<ul> <li>Notation</li> <li>create music notation and scores from scratch</li> <li>import music notation files from other sources</li> <li>adapt music notation to suit your students</li> <li>playback music notation files and export the sound as an audio file</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Audio</li> <li>Recorder/Voice Memo Apps - to quickly capture performances or found sounds</li> <li>Audio Editor – to record, edit and process audio files e.g., trim, fade in/out, pitch change</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>support students' composition, listening and performing skills and music literacy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>DAW – to record, edit and process audio and MIDI files and to arrange</li> <li>to support students' composition, listening and performing skills</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Video</li> <li>explore film music, music and image and graphic scores</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Learning and Teaching</li> <li>support Formative Assessment</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>capture performances</li> <li>demonstrate practical skills and other learning</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>communicate in multiple languages</li> <li>share information and resources that support learning</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>share examples of performances to support listening</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>report on learning and teaching</li> <li>provide multiple means of engagement, representation and action &amp; expression</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>source supports, resources, musical examples</li> <li>support planning and administrative tasks</li> </ul>

#### YOUR Music Teacher Tech Toolkit



What software do I currently have in my tech toolkit? What works well? What else might I use this software for?

Notation?	Audio?
Video?	Learning & Teaching?



Tacú leis an bhFoghlaim Ghairmiúil i measc Ceannairí Scoile agus Múinteoirí

m Supporting the Professional annairí Learning of School Leaders and Teachers

# Thank you for your engagement

Spring Sessions Tuesday, 09<sup>th</sup> April 2024



