



Music Generation Longford SUMMARY FRAMEWORK PLAN

Based on the needs identified and local context of County Longford:

Our goals are to:

- Build **participation and engagement** in performance music education through the development of *high quality, accessible, inclusive, diverse and creative* music programmes **that place the needs of children and young people at their core**
- Develop **music making** as an effective means of **engaging marginalised communities**, combating disadvantage, connecting youth and enriching communities through opportunities to excel and express through sustained engagement in music
- Introduce a **coordinated, cohesive and structured response to local needs** in collaboration with existing providers and a broad range of local, regional and national partners to grow the local music infrastructure and enrich Longford's music ecology
- Respond strategically to the need for clear **progression pathways to nurture creativity and talent**

Programme strands to deliver on these goals:

A strategic decision taken by Longford Local Music Education Partnership (LMEP) in response to the needs of the community is that there will be **no cost to children and young people participating** in the **10 Performance Music Education Programme Strands**. All programme stands and actions identified complement, add value and have the potential for social, economic and cultural benefits and will be delivered in partnership over the initial three-year period. The **LMEP will coordinate the implementation of the Music Generation Longford programme**, promote and champion the projects, and measure the impacts and benefits for Longford. **Delivery will be led by the Music Development Officer**. Performance Music Education Programmes will be delivered by a **panel of trained professional musicians** who will participate in continuing professional development opportunities and meet statutory requirements in child protection and welfare. The programme will be resourced with an instrument bank.

The commitment of local providers and agencies to make music generation a reality for Longford is **embedded in the programme structure and business model**, all of which will proceed on a joint matched funding basis. The framework plan will deliver sustainable outcomes for children and young people as it has **secured buy in from the music sector, existing providers of music education services and key agencies in the broader creative, public, voluntary and community sectors in County Longford**.

Music Generation Longford is embedded within the LMEP structure which will ensure continuity for the long-term. It is the starting point for a sustainable programme informed by evidence-based learning i.e. what has been tested and worked for LMEPs active regionally, coupled with research carried out by Music Generation and international models to ensure a strong policy foundation.

Programme Strands Years 1 - 3

Summary Description

Access Programmes within Early Years Childcare environments / 0-4 years

- **Ceol Binn na Paisti** - 30 week music programme. A focus will be to integrate music literacy in a fun way and to build capacity among room leaders. There is interest in linking with the Northern Ireland 'Musical Pathways to Learning' early years programme which is run by Education & Library Board (NI ELB). The invitation to participate in the programme will be issued to all 35 childcare services across the county by way of an open call. The programme will place particular emphasis on engaging disadvantaged and marginalised families.

Access Programmes within the school environment:

Primary Level / 5-12 years

- **Primary Forte**

30 week in-school performance music education programme;

- whole class** instrumental tuition and performance programme focused on introduction to wind instruments (recorder and musicianship based on Wind Wise model CSM) strings (violin and musicianship informed by St Agnus' primary school model in Crumlin) and basic percussion.
- whole class** singing and choral programme

For **i)** and **ii)** above participating schools will be identified through an open call, issued by Music Generation Longford targeting in particular *Deis* designated schools. The school will opt for a singing/choral based programme or an instrumental tuition programme, both of which will incorporate a fun approach to music literacy and theory. The programme will be developed by Music Generation Longford in partnership with participating schools and funded on a 50/50 basis i.e. Music Generation Longford 50% Schools 50%. **No cost to students.** The programme will be delivered by professional musicians.

- **After School** vocal and instrumental programme targeting four disadvantaged primary schools and aimed at small group tuition.

Secondary Level / 13-18

- **Perfect Pitch**

A secondary level we propose to develop a flexible approach to keep possibilities open in response to what emerges from schools. Access routes will include a combination of bespoke transition year programmes. There will be the option for schools to access vocal and instrumental tuition – tuition in Harp and Uilleann Pipes will feature in the range of instruments offered given the interest already expressed. The programme will be developed by Music Generation Longford in partnership with participating schools and funded on a 50/50 basis i.e. Music Generation Longford 50% Schools 50%. **No cost to students.** The programme will be delivered by professional musicians.

Programme Strands Years 1 - 3

Summary Description

Access through programmes that promote inclusion in youth and community contexts / 0-18

Ethnic Minorities - Irish Travellers

The Pegasus Project / 14-18

- **Music Reach** – 12 week programme focused on the development of creative ability through song writing, composition, recording and production and linked to literacy and communications modules and performance opportunities in partnership with the Hype Festival. The programme will be delivered by musicians, composers, practitioners, performers and music professionals.

National and Non-National Communities

Sweet Harmony / 0-18

- A pilot project targeting extreme disadvantage and marginalisation in national and non-national communities initially focused in Longford Town and Edgeworthstown as the areas of greatest need. The programme will be delivered by musicians, practitioners, performers and music professionals.

Access through programmes that meet socio-geographic need in local community settings:

Music Hubs 13-18

- **Music Hubs** will be established in ***Longford Town, Ballymahon and Granard*** and provide access for young people to a broad range of music services, including; rehearsal space, professional mentorship and coaching, master-classes and specialist workshops, instruments and music technology. The programme will be delivered by musicians, practitioners, performers and music professionals.
- Hubs will operate a ***Youth Music Creators Forum*** to promote originality, diverse cultural expression and experimentation with musical forms. This will start by giving young people who are currently creating, composing and making music privately a forum in which to share and perform their work. In addition, the hubs will aim to develop ***Young Musicians Mentorship Scheme*** where industry professionals work with young people on a 1/1 or small group basis.
- Hubs will also provide young people with **opportunities to access information about working in the music industry** and the range of careers available through ***Music is my Future***. It will provide internship opportunities for transition year students in partnership with local professional music stakeholders across a range of music contexts e.g. working with professional recording studio.
- **Music Generation Longford** will establish a **new experimental performance platform** to provide young people in rock bands throughout the county via Music Hubs and participating in the projects mentioned above (Pegasus and Sweet Harmony) access to innovative performance opportunities e.g. Hype DJ tent for performance of new raps or mixes recorded.

Programme Strands Years 1 - 3

Summary Description

Access through high quality opportunities for collective performance experiences / 5-18

- **Establish County Longford Children and Young People's 'Five Notes' Choir**

The Choir will be **led by a professional Choral Director with membership open**, but drawn in the main from those participating in the Music Generation Longford school based singing/choral tuition programme. The Choir will be developed along the lines of the **Aspiro model** operating successfully in County Carlow where members are **not required to audition**. The Choir will provide an important performance opportunity for children and young people to showcase their talent.

- **Establish County Longford 'Light & Shade' Youth Orchestra**

The Youth Orchestra will be established by Music Generation Longford with an initial focus on wind/strings/percussion, working with a conductor/musical director involved in the schools tuition programme. The current model in operation in County Roscommon has proven successful for dispersed rural locations. This model targets instrumental tuition to geographic clusters i.e. woodwind, strings and percussion in three different towns, which could be explored for Longford and linked to the music hubs operating in *Ballymahon, Granard and Longford Town*. Members will be drawn in the main from children and young people participating in the Music Generation Longford schools based instrumental tuition programmes. **The Youth Orchestra will provide an important performance opportunity for children and young people to showcase their talent.**

- **Establish 'Sonic Colours' Showcase and Summer Youth Music Festival for County Longford**

Music Generation Longford will create new opportunities for youth engaged in various music projects throughout the year to perform in an annual Music Generation Longford showcase. Initially envisaged as a one-day festival, **the event will offer innovative programming, incorporating a live music stage, taster workshops, master classes** and in time may offer a residential programme to compliment the live performance element.

Participation Targets and Timeline

Music Generation Longford will aim to engage 6,385 children and young people through its performance music education programmes over the initial three-year period. This represents an increase of 51% in numbers of the total population **accessing and participating in performance music education programmes. The participation targets for each programme strand are set out in the table below, together with indicative implementation timelines.**

	Goal 1 - Programme Strands	Participation Targets	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
1.	<u>Early Years</u> <i>Ceol Binn na Paisti</i>	1,600 children	300	450	850
2.	<u>Schools</u>				
	<i>Primary Forte</i>	2,900 children	900	1,000	1,000
	<i>Perfect Pitch</i>	1,000 young people	300	300	300
3.	<u>Youth and Community</u>				
	<i>Pegasus Project</i>	80 young people		40	40
	<i>Sweet Harmony Pilot</i>	100 children and young people		50	50
	<i>Music Hubs</i>	100 young people		50	50
	<i>Hype Performance Platform</i>	35 young people			35
4.	<u>Performance Opportunities</u>				
	<i>'Five Notes' Children and Youth County Choir</i>	120 children and young people		80	60
	<i>County Longford Light & Shade Youth Orchestra</i>	50 young people		25	25
	<i>Sonic Colours Music Showcase and Summer Festival</i>	400 young people	100	150	150