



Sligo Education Centre is part of a national network of 21 Education Support Centres. These are charged with the provision of Continuing Professional Development for teachers, and with providing support for the wider education community, in particular parents, Boards of Management and Special Needs Assistants.

The **Sligo Music Education Partnership** is made up of strategic partners from the arts and education sectors in Sligo

Lead agencies include Sligo Education Centre (Director Lorna Gault), Sligo County Council Arts Service (Arts Officer Mary McAuliffe and Assistant Arts Officer Rhona McGrath) and Sligo VEC (Jack Lynch). They combine complementary expertise in the areas of formal education, music and the arts.

Local partners include two primary teacher representatives who work with the Primary Curriculum Support Service and representatives from each of the three participating music organisations, Sligo Jazz Project (Eddie Lee), The Coleman Centre (Michael Hurley, traditional music) and Sligo Academy of Music (Anna Houston, classical music).

Key informants include seventeen primary school teachers who took part in the initial Live Music in the Classroom programme.

A National Advisory Group has been formed in order to complement local expertise in the areas of education, music and the arts; it is made up of representatives from University of Limerick (John O’Flynn), the Primary Curriculum Support Programme (National Co-ordinator Marie McLoughlin), the Arts Council (Lorraine Comer) and Music Network (Deirdre McCrea).

Sligo Music Education Partnership aims to develop **Live Music in the Classroom** as a means of delivering creative curriculum-focused interactions between musicians, teachers and pupils in primary schools. This programme has grown out of the Vogler Quartet in Sligo Residency, an innovative use of an international string quartet as the central resource in a programme of long-term music education and development in Sligo, which took place between 1999 and 2004. The Residency was initiated and co-ordinated by Sligo Arts Department on behalf of Sligo Local Authorities and in association with Music Network and the Arts Council.