



Syllabus

**Diploma of The Institute of Registered
Music Teachers of New Zealand (Dip IRMT)**

www.irmt.org.nz

From 2012

Includes Early Childhood Music Diploma Syllabus

Annual closing date: 1 May

The Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand

The Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand (IRMTNZ) was constituted by Parliament in The Music Teachers Act 1981. The organisation is the successor of the former Federation of Societies of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand, which evolved from The Music Teachers Registration Act 1928. One of the main purposes of the Institute is, in the wording of the 1981 Act, "to promote the general advancement of music teaching and the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge and skills connected with music teaching."

The IRMT Diploma, Dip IRMT

The Dip IRMT syllabus covers performing ability, general musicianship and, especially, music teaching. The 120 credits required are earned by both academic and practical excellence, and can be gained through flexible options including credits, cross-credits and examinations. Credits and cross-credits can be gained in three ways: by previous qualifications; by attendance at the Teacher Training Courses organised by the Institute, and by submitting evidence of successful involvement in musical performance, including, uniquely, community music-making such as participation in local choirs, orchestras and musical productions.

The IRMTNZ Examinations Board

The Examinations Board of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand consists of a Chairperson and two other members, all appointed by the Council from among its number. The Board appoints examiners and assessors.

Contents

Introduction

Why should I obtain the IRMT Diploma?	3
Who may apply?	3
What is required and how long will it take?	3
What will it cost?	3
How do I apply?	3
Additional information	3

Requirements

Overview	5
Section 1: Teaching	5
Section 2: Performance	6
Section 3: Musical Knowledge, Leadership and Research	7
Early Childhood Teaching Diploma	9
Enrolment form	11

Contact details and further information

All enquiries and correspondence regarding the Institute and the Diploma should be directed to the Examinations Secretary, who is also the Institute's Registrar:

The Registrar, P O Box 4122, Christchurch 8140
 registrar@irmt.org.nz

For more information about the Institute, visit www.irmt.org.nz.

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Introduction

Why should I obtain the IRMT Diploma?

The IRMT Diploma provides evidence that your music teaching meets professional criteria in respect of music teaching ability, musical performance, and musical knowledge and leadership. These criteria are set by the Council of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand (IRMTNZ), a body constituted by The Music Teachers Act 1981. Successful candidates are entitled to put the letters Dip IRMT after their names.

Who may apply?

Any person residing in New Zealand is eligible. There are no pre-requisites.

What is required and how long will it take?

The syllabus requirements are set out on pages 5 to 8. Many candidates are able to complete the Diploma in a year or two of part-time study, because they qualify for credits and cross-credits. There is no time limit, except that the permission of the Examinations Board (whose decision shall be final) is required for any components to be sat after five years from the date an applicant first enrolled.

What will it cost?

The fees vary depending on the options chosen. Details are listed on the enrolment form. Fees are reviewed periodically. Some assistance towards fees may be available to IRMTNZ members or their students. The application form for a grant towards fees is available from the Registrar.

How do I apply?

- **Enrolment form.** See final pages. Forms can also be printed from www.irmt.org.nz.
- **Annual enrolment.** Enrolment is required for each year in which you enter for any component(s) of the Diploma. The enrolment fee of \$80.00 is payable for the first year only.
- **Closing date.** 1 May

Obtaining credits and cross-credits. Documents relating to credits or cross-credits must be submitted with the enrolment form. Where proof of qualifications, certificates or examination passes is required, photocopies will be accepted only if they are countersigned by an independent person (minister of religion, school principal, Justice of the Peace, or solicitor). Other forms of evidence must be submitted in sufficient detail for the assessor to make a judgement, and this evidence should also be countersigned by a reputable person who is able to corroborate the facts contained in it. Additional evidence may be requested by the Examinations Board.

Additional information

- *Acceptance of entries.* Entries will be accepted only where they are in accordance with the prescription and regulations set out in this Syllabus. In all matters relating to acceptance of entries, the decision of the Examinations Board will be final.
- *Late entries.* Late entries (or required documents or information submitted after the due date) will not be accepted, except that the Examinations Board may at its sole discretion grant an extension of time for entry following receipt of a written application explaining the reason for lateness. The decision of the Board on such applications shall be final.
- *Illness and unforeseen events.* The Examinations Secretary must be informed immediately and in writing if a candidate will be unable to attend an examination or meet a required due date. When cancellation is due to illness (confirmed by a doctor's certificate), or is due to some unavoidable and unpredictable event, a candidate will, upon written application to the Examinations Board Secretary, normally be allowed to re-enter the examination the following year.

- *Decisions on granting credits or cross-credits.* Notification of the acceptability of claims for credit or cross-credit will be sent to candidates by 30 June. In cases where a cross-credit has not been granted, an entry for the examination for that component will be accepted until 31 July. In all claims for credit the assessor's decision will be final.
- *Examination times and places.* Examinations for components 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B will normally be held each year during the September/October vacation period. Exact dates and times will be determined after entries are received. Every effort will be made to locate examination places as conveniently as possible for candidates and requests for particular days, times and places for examinations will be considered. Candidates will be notified well in advance of the time and place of their examination and this notice should be brought to the examination. No alteration to the day, time or place can be made after these have been notified.
- *Examiners and assessors.* For components 1A and 2A, there will be two examiners, one being a specialist. For components 1B and 2B, there will be either one or two examiners. For all other components, decisions will be made by one examiner or assessor. In some cases such as examinations in smaller centres a video recording may take the place of a specialist examiner.
- **Other examination regulations**
 - Copies of music.* Candidates must ensure that a copy of the music is provided for the examiners, in all appropriate cases. Any reputable edition may be used.
 - Photocopies.* Candidates may use a photocopied page only to assist with a difficult turn. Scores for examiners may also be photocopies but these will be retained and destroyed.
 - Page-turning.* Examiners will not turn pages.
 - Accompanists.* Candidates must provide an accompanist where needed. The accompanist may remain in the room only while accompanying.
 - Instruments and equipment.* Candidates must provide their own instruments (with the exception of pianos) and also equipment such as music stands.
- **Results and reports.** All examinations and assessments for the award of credits will be made on a pass/fail basis, and the decision of the examiner(s) and/or assessor(s) will be final. Successful candidates will receive either an A, B or C grade to correspond to a pass with Excellence, Merit or Credit respectively.
- **The IRMT Diploma.** Candidates who complete all requirements successfully will be awarded a Diploma signed by both the President of IRMTNZ and the Secretary of the Examinations Board, and will be entitled to use the letters Dip IRMT after their names.
- **Closing date:** 1 May

Requirements

OVERVIEW

The Diploma has three sections from which a total of 120 credits must be obtained. Many requirements can be met by cross-crediting.

1. Teaching 54 credits

This section has two sub-sections: Practical Teaching and Viva Voce (42 credits) and Musicianship (12 credits). It is strongly recommended that components 1A and 1B be taken before the remaining components.

2. Performance 30 credits

This section has two sub-sections: Prepared Performance (20 credits) and Complementary Performance (10 credits). Candidates must show competence in two performance modes.

For example, a pianist might gain his or her Prepared Performance credits as a solo pianist and gain his or her Complementary Performance by singing or playing a second instrument or playing the piano in a duet or to accompany a soloist.

3. Knowledge and Leadership 36 credits

This section has many options, most of which can be gained by cross-crediting.

1. Teaching (54 credits)

No cross-crediting is available for this section. It is assessed by one examination which includes the following two components:

1A Practical Teaching and Viva Voce (42 credits)

Practical Teaching (36 credits)

In the examination, candidates will teach two of their pupils (or groups of pupils). Each of the two lessons will be of approximately 30 minute's duration. The two pupils (or groups of pupils) must have been pupils of the candidate for at least one year and are to be working at different levels with at least one pupil working at grade 5 level or above. After these lessons, the candidate will discuss aspects of teaching arising from the lessons and in general. A good knowledge of repertoire is expected.

Teaching Folio (6 credits)

By 1 August, candidates will submit two copies of a folio containing:

- (i) a summary of the candidate's teaching experience;
- (ii) detailed notes on the two pupils (or groups) including their previous learning, recent work, aspirations and attitudes, current difficulties and aims;
- (iii) some recent lesson plans and evaluations; and
- (iv) any other relevant information.

Candidates will be advised if the folio has been accepted. If the folio is not approved, it will be returned in time for it to be re-submitted for approval before the Practical Teaching Examination.

1B Musicianship (12 credits)

Quick Study

Candidates will be given 10 minutes in which to prepare and then perform a short piece of approximately Grade 5 level. This will be followed by a discussion of the piece. Topics may include such aspects as form, harmony, modulation and style. Non-keyboard candidates will be accompanied by an examiner, and the accompaniment may be included in the discussion.

Transposition or Improvisation (Candidate's choice)

- Transposition. Instrumental candidates will transpose four bars of a melody up or down a tone, at sight. No more than four sharps or flats will be required in the new key signature. Vocal candidates will sing a short unaccompanied test.
- Improvisation. Candidates will be asked to improvise a melody no longer than eight bars in opening.

2. Performance (30 credits)**2A Prepared Performance (20 credits)****Cross-credit option**

Cross-credit for this component may be granted to candidates who submit documentary evidence that they have any one of the following qualifications or types of performance experience:

- Stage I performance at a university or conservatorium
- a Performance Diploma of a recognised examining body
- professional performing experience as a soloist, or a conductor or member of an orchestra, choir or other ensemble or,
- performing ability equivalent to any one of the above, confirmed by some other verifiable means.

Note If the above was achieved more than ten years ago, evidence of continuing performance is required.

Examination option

If the cross-credit option is not chosen (or if cross-credits are not awarded) candidates will perform:

- either in a solo recital
- or by conducting a choral or instrumental ensemble that has been prepared by the candidate.

The items will be performed in two sections. The first, lasting approximately 15 minutes, will be items suitable for a formal concert. The second section, lasting approximately 10 minutes, will be items suitable either for an audience of children, or for an informal gathering of adults.

NOTES

- (i) *Programmes.* A list of pieces intended to be performed must be submitted for approval, when enrolling. Candidates must also bring copies of the music and a clearly written programme to the examination.
- (ii) *Selecting the music.* In choosing this programme, candidates should bear in mind that the standard of difficulty must relate to the cross-credit performing levels in the cross-credit option (see above). Excerpts or single movements of longer works may be chosen. Some of the music should be such as to fully show the technical and interpretative ability of the candidate.
- (iii) *Discussion and analysis.* Following the recital, there will be a discussion of approximately 10 minutes, on interpretative, stylistic and technical features of the programme performed.

2B Complementary Performance (10 credits)

Cross-credit option

Cross-credits may be granted:

- Either to candidates who submit evidence that they have passed a performance examination for a different instrument to that offered for 2A Prepared Performance. The examination must be at Grade Four level or higher, and be set by a recognised examining body. Alternatively, candidates may establish, by some other verifiable means, that they have achieved a performing level equivalent to such a standard. Pianists must offer evidence pertaining to a non-keyboard instrument or voice and all other candidates must choose the piano.
- Or to candidates who submit satisfactory evidence, such as a tape or video, that they have recently played or sung in ensemble performance (choir, orchestra, band, chamber group, duo, opera, as an accompanist etc.) and have rehearsed for approximately 40 hours or more and given one or more public performances. (However, cross-crediting of this ensemble option is not available to those who have chosen conducting for 2A Prepared Performance).

Examination option

- Pianists must choose to either sing, play a different instrument, or play piano duets or accompany. They will perform two or three contrasting pieces of 7-10 minutes duration. Candidates who choose to play duets or accompany must provide the other performer.
- Singers and other instrumentalists will perform on the piano. They will play three pieces: (i) a simple one-page accompaniment chosen by the candidate, (ii) a sight-reading piece at approximately Grade 2 performance level, and (iii) a short melody, chosen by the examiner, which would be suitable as a rhythm test.
- Conductors will perform on the piano. They will play three pieces: (i) two pages of an accompaniment of an item presented in 2A, chosen by the candidate, (ii) a piano piece of approximately Grade 3 level, chosen by the candidate, and (iii) eight bars to be sight-read from a four-part score, either vocal or instrumental, related to the choice of ensemble and chosen by the examiner.

Note If the cross-crediting option is not chosen (or if cross-credits are not granted) for either of the performing components, then the examinations for 2A and 2B will occur on the same day.

Musical Knowledge, Leadership and Research (36 credits)

This section is mainly available by cross-crediting. No more than twenty-four credits can come from any one section.

3A Musical Knowledge (up to 24 credits)

Candidates will submit evidence that their knowledge of music includes an understanding of the rudiments of musical theory, musical textures, form, and the history of music. Up to twenty-four credits can be earned from the following options:

- university or conservatorium study completed, or an approved and relevant part of such study (12 credits)
- passes in theory examinations set by a recognised examining body at a level of Grade 7 or above (12 credits)
- published composition and/or arrangements, such as a set of pieces suitable for use by students (12 credits) – Guidelines are available
- substantial published papers written by the candidate (12 credits)
- other evidence, such as pupils' achievements in theory to Grade 6 level or higher, that confirms a level of musical knowledge comparable to one of the above (12 credits).

3B Teaching Courses (up to 24 credits)

Up to twenty-four credits can be earned from the following options, on submission of relevant evidence:

- attendance at an IRMT Pre-service Teacher Training Course with an acceptable Course Record (12 credits)
- attendance at one or more of the three IRMT In-Service Teacher Training Courses (6 credits each)
- attendance at, and a report on, other comparable workshops, master classes and courses as may be approved by the Examinations Board, following application by the candidate (6 credits)
- holding of a Trained Teachers Certificate or Diploma of Teaching (12 credits)
- a pass in university papers in Education or closely related subjects at Stage 1 level (6 credits) or Stage 2 level (12 credits)
- a pass in a music teaching paper at Diploma level (12 credits)
- completion of Suzuki teacher training to level 2 (6 credits) or level 4 (12 credits).

3C Musical Knowledge and Leadership (up to 24 credits)**Musical Leadership (12 credits)**

Credits can be earned if documentary evidence shows that candidates have:

- either recently led or conducted an orchestra, choir or other ensemble for approximately 40 hours of rehearsal and in a public performance (12 credits)
- or acted as a leader/organiser for a musical enterprise of a substantial nature (12 credits).

The submission should include a full description of the group or enterprise, its purpose, activities and achievements, and a tape or video.

Note If the conducting option was chosen for 2A Prepared Performance, a different type of ensemble is needed for 3C Musical Knowledge and Leadership. For example, if an instrumental group was offered for 2A, then a choir might be chosen to earn credit for 3C.

Research (12 credits)

The candidate will present an essay of 3,000 to 3,500 words on some aspect of music education. This needs to show evidence of research and/or original thinking, and must be presented in A4 hard copy single sided and double-spaced. Copies of the criteria for assessment are available from the Examinations Secretary.

How to apply. When enrolling, the candidate must submit an outline, of not more than 200 words, of the intended essay. An assessor will consider this and either give approval to proceed, or suggest modifications, or indicate that the outline is unsuitable. The candidate will receive this response by the end of May to allow for completion of the essay by the due date of 30 November. Two printed copies are required.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC TEACHING DIPLOMA

The Diploma of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand may be presented in Early Childhood/Special Needs Music Teaching. This supplement to the Syllabus presents the specialist requirements for this diploma.

Candidates must also refer to the current Syllabus of the diploma for general regulations.

1. Teaching (54 credits)

1A Practical Teaching (42 credits)

Practical Teaching and Viva Voce (36 credits)

- Conduct a 30' practical session of music experience with parents and children aged 0-3 years and
- Conduct a 30' music session for up to ten children aged 4-8 years or a group of special needs children. Parents may be involved.

One group must have been participating in the candidate's music classes for at least one year.

Discussion and analysis. The candidate will discuss with the examiner aspects of children's music development, including interactions arising from the sessions. A sound knowledge of repertoire, child development, sensory/motor and musical development is required.

Teaching Folio (6 credits)

By 1 August, candidates will submit two copies of a folio containing:

- A summary of the candidate's teaching experience.
- Detailed notes on the two groups presented for practical teaching, including understanding of the use of elements of music as outlined in the Ministry of Education document Music Education for Young Children 1993, and strands and goals outlined in the Ministry of Education Early Childhood document Te Whaariki 1996.
- Personal reflections on aspirations and attitudes, current difficulties and aims.
- Some recent short term and long term planning including goals and evaluations.
- Evidence of commitment to the use of appropriate Māori and Pacific Island music and that of other cultures resident in New Zealand.

Candidates will be advised if the folio has been accepted. If the folio is not approved, it will be returned in time for it to be re-submitted for approval before the Practical Teaching Examination.

1B Improvisation (12 credits)

- Candidates will be given a non-verbal vocal introduction and continue with a non-verbal vocal improvisation of about 16 bars.
- Candidates will complete a sung introduction improvising a rhythmic, rhyming children's song with words. This song could be major, minor or modal.
- Candidates will be given an eight bar instrumental introduction and will continue with an improvisation on a tuned percussion instrument that is suitable for children

2. Musical Skills (30 credits)

2A Prepared Performance (20 credits)

Cross-credit option

Cross-credit for the component may be granted to candidates who submit documentary evidence that they have

- Passed a performance examination at Grade 6 level or higher set by a recognised examining body.
- Performing ability equivalent to the above, confirmed by some other verifiable means.

Examination option

Candidates will be required to:

- Perform one or two pieces, movements or songs totalling about ten minutes in length on an instrument of their choice, which may be voice. A level of grade 6 or above is required.
- Sing two songs of a kind appropriate for performance to small children, one being an extended story or based on a book.
- Play, on two or more different instruments (which may include an untuned percussion or accompanying instrument) four short pieces (in four different keys or modes) which would encourage contrasting movement responses.

Discussion and analysis. Following the performances, there will be a discussion of approximately 15 minutes on aspects of the music played, and its relevance to the young child and parent/caregiver.

2B Complementary Performance (10 credits)

Cross-credit option

Refer to Syllabus, Page 7. Cross-credits may also be earned from a pass in ABRSM Practical Musicianship examination, Grade 4 or above.

Examination option

Refer to main Syllabus, Page 7.

3. Musical Knowledge, Leadership & Research (36 credits)

This section is mainly available by cross-crediting, except for the Research requirement which is compulsory.

3A Musical Knowledge (up to 24 credits)

Refer to the syllabus for cross-credit options. In addition one cross-credit may be earned from a pass in Grade 5 theory.

3B Teaching Courses (up to 24 credits)

In addition to the cross-credit options in the syllabus, page 8:

Satisfactory completion of an approved accredited course in music education such as:

- The 50 hour Music courses offered for the Bach. Tchg. and Learning at the Christchurch College of Education (12 credits each)
- Chimes (Lower Hutt) Music Course (12 credits).
- A week long Orff course, level one (12 credits).
- A Suzuki teacher training to level 2 (6 credits) or level 4 (12 credits).
- Other comparable courses that may be approved by the Examinations Board.

3C Musical Leadership and Research (up to 24 credits)

Musical Leadership (12 credits)

Credits can be earned as in the Syllabus page 8.

Research (12 credits) (compulsory)

The candidate will present an essay of 3000 – 3500 words on some approved aspect of music education or musical parenting. Refer to the Syllabus page 8.

IRMT Diploma Enrolment Form

Closing date: 1 May

Family name _____ Given name(s) _____

Postal address _____
 _____ (Post Code) _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Email _____ @ _____

Year of entry (please circle one number) 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

Other (please state) _____

Credits entered for this year (with instrument or performance mode)

In the left hand column, please circle the code of each component you are entering this year

Codes	Titles of components (with credits)	Number of credits
	Plus instruments or performance modes (e.g. violin, piano, entered this year singing, conducting, accompanying on piano, duet on piano)	
1A	Practical Teaching and Viva Voce plus Folio (42 credits) Instrument or performance mode	_____
1B	Musicianship (12 credits) Instrument or performance mode	_____
2A	Prepared Performance (20 credits) Instrument or performance mode	_____
2B	Complementary Performance (10 credits) Instrument or performance mode	_____
3A	Musical Knowledge (see page 7 for number of credits)	_____
3B	Teaching Courses (see page 8 for number of credits)	_____
3C	Musical Knowledge, Leadership and Research (see page 8 for number of credits)	_____
TOTAL CREDITS ENTERED THIS YEAR		=====

Fees payable

In the left hand column, please circle the code of each component you are entering this year, then enter the fees payable. All fees are GST inclusive. **IRMT GST No. 21 - 071 - 161**

Code	Component	Fee NZ\$	Fee Payable NZ\$
ENR	Enrolment Fee	80.00	
1A	Practical Teaching and Viva Voce	400.00	
1B	Musicianship	75.00	
2A	Prepared Performance: Examination Cross Credit	250.00 50.00	
2B	Complementary Performance: Examination Cross Credit	100.00 50.00	
3A	Musical Knowledge	25 per 6 credits	
3B	Teaching Courses	25 per 6 credits	
3C	Musical Knowledge, Leadership and Research	25 per 6 credits	
ESY	Essay	175.00	
TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED			

Preferred examination centre. If you have entered for one or more examinations please state your preferences for the city or town in which you would like to be examined.

1st Preference _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

Documentation. If you have entered for one or more components for which documentary material is required, please attach the relevant documents and/or submitted statements. Papers relating to each component must be clipped together separately under a cover page showing the candidate's name and the component to which each set of documents refers.

Sending the application. Please send the completed form, attachments and fees in full to: IRMT Examinations Secretary, P O Box 4122, Christchurch 8140

If paying electronically (preferred method), the account number is 060501-0462799-00. **Please include your name in the Code and "DipIRMT" as the Reference so that we know who has sent us the payment.**

If paying by cheque, make cheque payable to IRMT.

Closing date. Entries close on 1 May.

Enquiries and correspondence. Please visit www.irmt.org.nz or contact The IRMT Examinations Secretary, P O Box 4122, Christchurch 8140
Tel (03) 384 4629 Fax (03) 384 4639 Email: registrar@irmt.org.nz