

Fred Finn Music Exam Entry Form

Examinations will take place in April/May of this year. The venue will be in Sligo town - dates to be finalised later.

The examinations give young musicians an opportunity to be assessed by highly skilled examiners and having their performances given a rating. Entries should be returned to the Branch in the next two weeks, on Saturday morning. **If you are unsure of the level your child is at, queries will be answered by June McCormack next Saturday morning.**

There are 3 cycles with different levels within each cycle

- Elementary Cycle 1,2,3
- Grade 1-5
- Grade 6-8

Exam Fees as follows for this year

• Elementary Cycle 1,2,3 €25	Grade 6-€50
• Grade 1 & 2 (€30)	Grade 7 -€60
• Grade 3- €35	Grade 8-€70
• Grade 4 -€40	Advanced Performance Cert-€90
• Grade 5- €45	

Please fill in form below & return with fee.

Late entries will not be accepted by Head Office

FRED FINN EXAM ENTRY FORM

Parents Name	
Phone No.	
Mobile No.	
Address	

Child's Name	
Instrument	
Exam level	

Did your child do an exam last year?
Exam Level last year:
Instrument last year

TOTAL DUE € _____ Cash _____ Cheque _____

Date Paid _____

Details on the SCT Music Exams for new entrants

What are the Comhaltas Music Exams?-

Comhaltas exams for traditional Irish musicians are run on an annual basis in the springtime. The system is similar to the classical music and drama exams you may already be familiar with. Many children find these annual exams very beneficial to mark and examine their progress in music. The Fred Finn Branch encourages children to participate in these exams on an annual basis. Children should be playing music for at least one full year before participating in these exams and would be expected to have a number of tunes off by heart for their exam. Exams are held in April/May and will be held in a venue in Sligo town this year for those attending Saturday morning classes. Date is assigned by Comhaltas head office.

Full details on the exams can be found online at https://comhaltas.ie/images/press_room/sct_syllabus_2016_english.pdf

More information -If you are unsure which grade you should be entered at or need to check what grade you participated in last year, June McCormack can answer your questions next Saturday downstairs in the Gaelscoil.

What's involved in the Exams:-Those wishing to participate in CCE exams need to be aware that there are 4 aspects to the exam. It is not just about playing tunes. Those wishing to take part in the exams need to be fully prepared in all these 4 areas. Each of the 4 areas are graded equally. The 4 aspects for exams are:

1. Performance of a number of tunes
2. Reading of music from staff notation
3. Informal musical discussion on the Irish music your child listens to, famous players on their instrument, the musical tradition of County Sligo, information on famous recordings of musicians from the early 1900s. (Children need to listen to recordings of Irish musicians regularly to be able to answer this part of exam competently)
4. Aural questions- clapping a rhythm from the examiner, recognising notes as played by the examiner, recognising low and high pitches & other listening tests.

In the Fred Finn classes, music teachers can help assist your child in preparing for the exam and in appropriate tune selection. During February/March the branch will hold an information session or two for parents along with their children. This will be held from 9:45 to 10:30 just before Saturday morning classes. Parents also have to take responsibility to ensure their children are fully prepared and practiced for their exams, with the assistance of their teachers.

Children should not be registered for the exams if they are not fully prepared in all areas above, as the exam experience could be a negative one without full preparation.