**Itinerant Music Teachers Registration**

* The NZ Teachers’ Council, which will change into EDUCANZ during 2015, requires all Itinerant Music Teachers be registered teachers. Guidelines on how to do this, when teaching across a variety of schools is found on their website, along with some helpful tips on the PPTA website.

**Notation**

* Teaching students how to notate their compositions is an important aspect of Music Education. The level to what that is depends on many diverse reasons. When assessing Composition NCEA standards at Level 1, 2 and 3 it is vital to check the requirements as outlined in the supplementary notes. The notation level needs to be appropriate to the genre/style. There is also the ability to produce score notation from audio through software. Look at [Melodyne,](http://melodyne.en.softonic.com/) [Ableton Live](https://www.ableton.com/en/trial/) and [Scorecloud.](http://scorecloud.com/download/) There are annual professional development opportunities advertised through the [Musicnet](http://artsonline.tki.org.nz/Communities/Music-Musicnet) email list.

**Assessing Choral/Kapa Haka for Level 1, 2 and 3 Group Performance Standards**

* This can be done. The assessment criteria states that the student getting assessed is clearly heard - this is the key aspect to remember. If you create a small group out of the large choir, eg 4 parts/voices, give them a few practices so that they get used to the diminished sound, then you can mark the performance with each voice easily heard. The same can be done for Kapa Haka Performances and to a smaller extent orchestras.

**How would you mark this? NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3 Solo Performance, Group Performance and Composition criteria**

* The NZQA website has quite a few additional documents and examples of many of these standards.<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/subjects/music/levels/>

Sharing assessments that you are unsure about with another music teacher or a specialist in that instrument is strongly advised. These connections can be found through local and national music teacher associations such as MENZA, your local ensembles or through social media groups.

**Intermediate/Junior rock bands**

* Using pre-made rock band material from a commercial music college has been found to be highly effective. Also it lowers the amount of ‘re-inventing the wheel’ you have to do by writing out parts. The accompanying audio tracks are also helpful for the students to practice along with. Look at Rock School or Trinity College books. Another way has been to use your guitar/bass/drum tutors to source material and then work on it in lessons. A final way is to use talented senior students to ‘mentor’ younger students and help create a ‘Band Book’ of modern and up to date songs.

**Digital music solutions - music assessment footage storage**

* Online cloud storage is coming down in price and is financially competitive with physical external hard drives. Online storage can be accessed by anyone who has the password or a link. This could be a member of your department, senior management team, a colleague, or even send to NZQA for moderation purposes. Current examples are Dropbox, Microsoft One Drive and Google Drive.

**Digital Theory**

* Check out the listings of websites and software in the [Commercial Resources](http://www.artsonline.tki.org.nz/Teaching-and-Learning/Secondary-teaching-resources/Music-Sound-Arts/Commercial-resources)  section on Arts Online. One recent example which will enable a ‘[flipped classroom’](http://www.thecontemporarymusiccourse.com) is. With technology advancing at a rapid pace, latest updates and new tools will be shared on the [Musicnet](http://artsonline.tki.org.nz/Communities/Music-Musicnet) community.

**Mock exams**

* [Learning Ideas NZ](http://www.learningideas.co.nz/) is currently the only company that offers Practice Exams for purchase. This is for the Aural and Score-reading externals at Level 1 and 2. It is created to be used in conjunction with their student workbooks. There are some other resources sold to support the score-based externals which are listed in the [Reviewed Resources](http://artsonline.tki.org.nz/Teaching-and-Learning/Secondary-teaching-resources/Music-Sound-Arts/Reviewed-resources) section of Arts Online

**Sibelius/Guitar Pro and other Specialist Music Software including Pro Tools Tips and Tricks**

* When using specialist music software and you are stuck, there are four places to look.

1 Search the software company’s homepage, they often have in-depth tutorials and videos along with user forums.

2 Ask the seller of the software for their directions towards tips and tricks.

3 There are companies that offer tutorial videos for purchase that are very in-depth. Try [www.groove3.com](http://www.groove3.com).

4 Ask a student to teach you as there may be one student who is very advanced on it.