

**Northern Ireland Piping and
Drumming School**

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The annual General meeting took place on 24th January 2024 in Hill of O'Neill in Dungannon and was attended by the current board members as well as tutors and students some of which were able to attend using the Classroom online facility. The current board was re-elected, and favourable comments were made on their progress.

The ensemble made a start with a small number of both students and tutors involved initially using breaktime at Lisburn as the practice session, this will need to be extended to give more time and to encourage more involvement, we are currently making an application to the Ulster Scots Agency for funding to extend the time allocated to this.

Sub Committees

The list below shows the activities Board Members and Tutors have been involved with.

Finance
Online Teaching
London College of Music and Scottish Qualification Authority (PDQB)
Special Needs Schools
School Ensemble

Each committee would have a chair who would report on progress to the Board.

Conclusion

This has been an encouraging year for the school, we have been able to further develop the school with the outreach programme to now include schools in Dungannon and Armagh this has significantly made an increase to the number of students, the view is that these students could further develop their skills by attending the classes held in Dungannon.

We do encourage the students to take external examinations as well as our own, we now have several students achieving GCSE in music using the skills achieved at the school. The connection with the National Piping Centre will help students attain further qualifications in PDQB and SQA as well as London College of Music.

We hope through the teaching programme to retain students who have achieved at the higher grades and encourage them to remain with the school and become tutors and pass on the skills they have developed from within the school to others.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Northern Ireland Piping and Drumming School actively promote a board of trustees which include a range of skills, experience and knowledge. They advertise and interview eligible candidates to be potential trustees of the board.

Successful candidates arising from interviews are eligible for nomination to the board. The trustees are elected at the annual general meeting by the members present in person, or through an authorised representative or by proxy.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



W F Carlisle - Trustee