



Proudly recognised by



- **Accredits** excellent professional training at full-time dance, drama, musical theatre and performing arts schools—providing the industry benchmark of **quality** since 1979
- **Validates** the world's leading awarding organisations which offer performing arts qualifications
- Works with **Affiliates** and **Collaborative bodies** to develop the highest standards of programme provision across the performing arts
- Recognises, by means of the **Recognised Awards Scheme**, pre-vocational dance, drama, musical theatre and performing arts schools and teachers

WESTSIDE PERFORMING ARTS

**Offering Excellence in  
Performing Arts Education  
since 1998**

## Examination Subjects offered by Westside Performing Arts

Westside offer tuition in a range of Performing Arts based exam subjects as subjects which are **complementary** to students formal academic or vocational education and training. **And** for some students is their **primary Vocational Training**. Our training is recognised by The Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre—CDMT<sup>1</sup> and the boards and colleges that award the qualifications are included below.

### DANCE<sup>2</sup>



# ISTD

<b>Pre-Vocational:</b>	Grades 1 – 6
<b>Vocational:</b>	Intermediate Foundation Intermediate Advanced 1 Advanced 2

### MUSICAL THEATRE<sup>3</sup>



#### **Certificate in Musical Theatre Performance:**

Grades 1 -3

Grades 4 – 5

Grades 6 – 8

DipLCM in Musical Performance

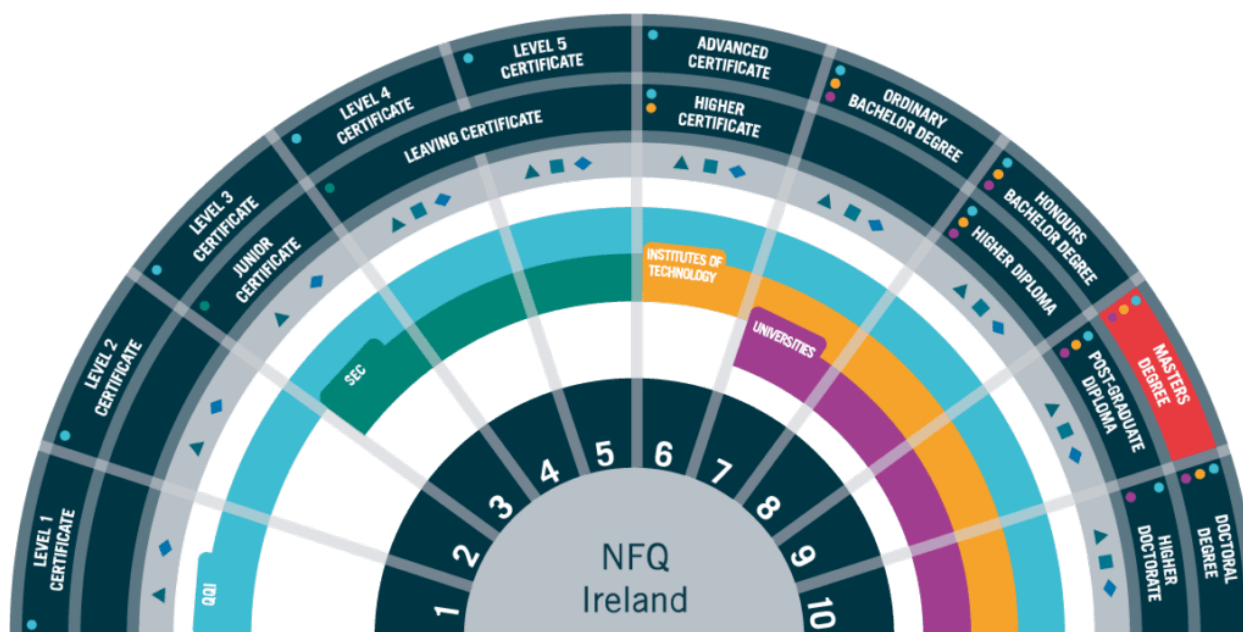
Exam Subject	RQF (UK)	NFQ IE (Rep of Ireland)	EQF (European)
ISTD Grade 1-4	Level 1	Level 3	Level 2
ISTD Grade 5	Level 2	Level 4	Level 3
ISTD Grade 6	Level 3	Level 5	Level 4
Vocational Inter Foundation	Level 2	Level 4	Level 3
Vocational Intermediate	Level 3	Level 5	Level 4
Advanced 1 -2	Level 4/5	Level 6	Level 5
LCM Grades 1 – 3	Level 1	Level 3	Level 2
LCM Grades 4 – 5	Level 2	Level 4	Level 3
LCM Grades 6 – 8	Level 3	Level 5	Level 4
DipLCM in Musical Performance	Level 4	Level 6	Level 5

<sup>1</sup> <https://cdmt.org.uk/>

<sup>2</sup> [www.istd.org/examinations/](http://www.istd.org/examinations/)

<sup>3</sup> <https://lcme.uwl.ac.uk/exams/regulation>

## FOR YOUR REFERENCE



### The National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) Rep of IRELAND explained:<sup>4</sup>

- **Level 1 and 2 Awards.**
- **Level 3 Awards.**
- Junior Certificate.
- **Level 4 Award.**
- **Level 5 Award.**
- Leaving Certificate.
- **Level 6: Advanced Certificate.**
- **Level 6: Higher Certificate.**

#### **Level 1 and 2 Awards**

These awards cover basic literacy and numeracy. They are used for a wide range of people, including the young, the old, and people with intellectual or other disabilities. Adults returning to training, or learners with few or no previous qualifications may also study for Level 1 awards.

<sup>4</sup> [www.courses.ie](http://www.courses.ie)

### **Level 3 Awards**

This award recognises knowledge, as well as personal and practical skills, including some transferable skills.

### **Junior Certificate**

In order to receive Junior Certificate, students must pass their examinations from first three years of secondary school. Most students return to school to do the Leaving Certificate.

### **Level 4 Award**

The Level 4 award is for vocational and personal skills. In addition, this certificate means the recipient has a specific standard of knowledge and understanding.

### **Level 5 Award**

This certificate is vocationally specific. It also means the recipient has acquired a general theoretical understanding of a field of work. Anyone with a Level 5 can start working or apply for further study programmes.

### **Leaving Certificate**

The Leaving Certificate falls at NFQ Levels 4 and 5.

### **Level 6: Advanced Certificate**

Advanced Certificate programmes teach a comprehensive range of skills. Some are specific to a particular vocation. Students develop a detailed theoretical understanding as well as vocational and occupational skills.

### **Level 6: Higher Certificate**

A Level 6 Higher Certificate takes about two years to complete. School leavers, or anyone with an equivalent qualification, can apply.

### **Level 7: Ordinary Bachelor Degree**

An Ordinary Bachelor Degree takes, on average, three years. You need a Leaving Certificate or its equivalent to apply. However, if you have a Higher Certificate, you may be able to transfer or do a one-year programme to get an Ordinary Bachelor Degree.

### **Level 8: Honours Bachelor Degree**

The Honours Bachelor Degree generally takes three to four years to complete. Some courses, like architecture and medicine take longer. There are also several one-year

## Westside Performing Arts Education Profile

programmes for people with an Ordinary Bachelor Degree to obtain an Honours Bachelor Degrees.

### **Level 8: Higher Diploma**

A Higher Diploma takes a year to complete. Generally speaking, you need an Honours Bachelor Degrees to do a Higher Diploma. Students generally do the Higher Diploma when they switch to a different field of study from their Honours Bachelor Degree.

### **Level 9: Postgraduate Diploma**

It generally takes a year to do the Postgraduate Diploma. It is an intermediate qualification. Applicants normally have an Honours Bachelor Degree, but if you have an Ordinary Bachelor Degrees you can also apply.

### **Level 9: Master's**

There are taught as well as research Master's Degrees in Ireland. Firstly, the taught Master's takes one to two years of study. Most students have Honours Bachelor Degrees. Most Research Master's Degree programmes last two years.

### **Level 10: Doctorate**

Depending on the discipline, you will need an Honours Bachelor Degree or Master's Degree before you can begin a PhD. Most Doctoral programmes take three and four years to complete.

### **Level 10: Higher Doctorate**

Finally, the High Doctorate is for career progression to advanced levels of academia and research. This award recognises the recipient's contributions to the body of knowledge.

## London College of Music Exams

(Awarded by the University of West London)



### Regulated Qualifications Framework

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) has replaced the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) as the system for recognising skills and qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

#### Levels:

The RQF has eight levels plus entry level. The table below shows the broad equivalences between UWLQ qualifications and other qualifications within the RQF and higher education.

RQF	UWLQ Qualifications	Equivalent Standard
Level 7	FLCM in Music Performance	Masters degree module
Level 6	LLCM in Music Performance and Teaching	Final year undergraduate degree module
Level 5	ALCM in Music Performance and Teaching	Second year undergraduate degree module
Level 4	DipLCM in Music Performance and Teaching	First year undergraduate degree module
Level 3	Grades 6 - 8	A level
Level 2	Grades 4 - 5	GCSE Grades 9 - 4
Level 1	Grades 1 - 3	GCSE Grades 3 - 1