

ISME National Affiliate (INA) organizational profile

Name and 'nation' of ISME National Affiliate organisation:

Music Education Council (UK)

Membership

See <http://www.mec.org.uk/corporate-members/> for current corporate list of members and links to their websites. MEC thus represents directly or indirectly tens of thousands of music educators and those interested in music education throughout the UK. Individual members are welcomed but are usually encouraged to join one of the Council's professional membership organisations that meet their own particular needs.

Affiliation/relationships with other partners, for example provincial/territorial/regional partners,

The Chair of the Music Education Council also sits on the board of trustees of the National Music Council.

As an umbrella/networking organisation the affiliations are with all relevant organisations within the UK (see above).

The United Kingdom (UK) includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, each which has their own Arts Council's and devolved government administration for Education and Culture. Regular meetings are held with Arts Council officers, civil servants and ministers and opposition politicians and the MEC chair and executive members, which facilitate sector-wide communications where appropriate.

Brief history and operational/organisational context

The first British Music Educators' Conference was held in July 1989 at Huddersfield Polytechnic. This was a special event in the development of music education in the UK. The aim was to stimulate discussion and promote interaction among people with differing roles in music education. The UK Council for Music Education and Training (UKCMET), as it was originally known, subsequently became the Music Education Council (UK) or MEC for short.

MEC acts as a medium for bringing together in a working relationship those organisations and institutions in the United Kingdom involved in music education and music education training, thereby creating a common meeting ground and opportunities for the exchange of information and the promotion of joint or connected activities. Our object is simply "to promote and advance the education and training of the public in music."

MEC has a paid General Manager who works for two days per week. All other officers and members of groups are voluntary.

The constitution, which has remained unchanged since 1998, is currently under review. At present there is an executive board of 12 plus a chair, past chair (for one year only), vice chair/honorary secretary and honorary treasurer. The board includes representatives of each nation if these are not covered by other board places and has the power to co-opt others to ensure appropriate balance. Terms of office are three years with the ability to stand for a second term.

Contact details/website

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<http://www.mec.org.uk/>