



# NZMEB Teachers Newsletter

April 2021

Dear Teachers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that the unsettled start to the year has not caused too many problems for you. We have felt very privileged to have been able to offer our examinations over the last year and are very grateful for the support we have received during this time. We are continuing to develop our syllabuses and resources to ensure we are offering the best service we can.

## Theory

Thank you for all your recent theory entries. NZMEB's theory programme develops over 6 grades, rather than the usual 8. The early grades are similar to those of the other exam boards but as the grades progress we include more content in comparison. The reason for this is many fold. Firstly, we aim to reduce the stress on our senior students by reducing the number of exams they need to sit at a time when they are often under significant pressure. A second reason is the reduction in cost to the families of those entering our exams by only sitting 6 exams.

We have recently reviewed the theory equivalencies for students entering exams requiring corequisite theory qualifications, who have their qualifications from other boards.



sound values

Revised theory equivalents				
NCEA	NZMEB Prac Grade	NZMEB/ AMEB	Trinity	ABRSM
L3	6	3 pass	5 pass	5 pass
L4	7	4 pass	6 pass	6 pass
L4	8	4 pass	6 pass	6 pass
L5	AMusNZ	5 pass	7 pass	7 pass
L7	LMusNZ	6 pass	8 pass	8 pass

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## Hybrid Exams

We will continue to offer hybrid exams this year. This system of hybrid examination allows entrants to use the repertoire and technical work from the international board syllabus alongside the musical knowledge and musicianship requirements of the NZMEB. Please note that if you are entering students for a hybrid exam, you need to enter them into a standard exam rather than a performance exam.

## Recital Examination

In response to requests from teachers for a syllabus to accommodate a wider range of entrants we have recently expanded our standard syllabuses across the instruments to include Recital Exams. These include Performance Certificate and Diploma recital exams, both AMusNZ, LMusNZ and FMusNZ, the repertoire coming from the diploma lists. There is no co-requisite theory component and entrants may choose between writing pre-prepared programme notes or participating in an oral musical knowledge discussion with their examiners. For more information see our website [www.nzmeb.org](http://www.nzmeb.org).

## Syllabuses

We are pleased to report that our Guitar syllabus is now up and ready for distribution. It will be up on the website and printed copies will be available in the next few weeks. If you are wanting a copy, please contact the National Administrator on [office@nzmeb.org](mailto:office@nzmeb.org).

## Grading

As of 2021, NZMEB have made a change with the terminology in the examination results. What was credit plus (B+) will now be merit, credit (B) will become credit plus, and merit (B-) will become credit.

Thanks for your continued support and best wishes for the upcoming year.

Nga mihi

Lynne Sperring