

Schools Limited Manufacture Licence Guidelines

About the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society Ireland (MCPSI) licence for schools

If you are producing CDs and DVDs containing music in your school, then you may need to obtain a licence.

The Schools Limited Manufacture Licence (SLML)

The music rights organisation MCPSI offers a licence for their music rights, which can be obtained via their agent the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency (ICLA). This makes it quick and easy to get a licence.

The specially designed licence for schools grants you permission to legally use any music, within their repertoire, in products such as DVDs, CDs and videos. Their music spans all genres and contains millions of songs, including those of many commercial artists.

What does the licence allow my school to do?

The SLM licence provides your school with permission to produce products such as CDs and DVDs containing up to 120 minutes of music per product. This would cover activities such as:

- the recording of student performances
- student films containing music

These items can be given away for free or sold by the school to students, family or friends.

Are there any restrictions on the Licence?

- The licence permits up to 120 minutes of music per product.
- The licence permits no more than two songs from any one artist.

There are some uses of music that are excluded from this licence. The following examples are a non-exhaustive list of the types of things containing music that are excluded from this licence.

- Promotional/training materials – any products that could be deemed promotional, such as a school prospectus DVD or materials used for teacher training would require prior approval from the rightholders.
- Grand Rights – productions such as a musical theatre play, ballet or opera where characters and storylines are depicted will require a ‘Grand Rights’ licence to be obtained directly from the rightholders.
- Copying for broadcast or public performance – for example, instructors copying music to use in their exercise classes.

What are Grand Rights?

Grand Rights are the rights associated with music performed with, or as part of, a dramatic work. A Grand Rights licence is required for the performance or the recording of any copyright dramatico-musical works. A dramatico-musical production includes ballets, operas, operettas, musicals and musical plays.

A Grand Rights licence can be obtained directly from the publisher of the work.

Performance rights for plays (with no music) can be obtained through the Drama League of Ireland.