

# Ceilidh Monsters Prospectus

## Ceilidhs in Schools



**We introduce children to music using the power of folk music, live performances and ceilidh dance.**

**Ceilidh Monsters** gives children that **very rare thing** a chance to dance to music that's **not been simplified** in order that they can join in. The chance to hear and dance to **real live folk** music played by **real live musicians**. Once they've learned a dance with **Ceilidh Monsters** they are ready for a **ceilidh anywhere!**

Each session includes **captivating performances** introducing the children to what live music is. During the performances we love watching the children's faces as they begin to **stare in wonder** - often spontaneously **clapping along** or tapping their feet. Then the best bit - the children get to **dance** to the music they've just been **inspired by**.

Sessions, Workshops and Residencies are led by **Kieran Szifris (Monster ceilidh Band, Kathryn Tickell)** and another professional folk musician. **Each session is unique** and introduces different styles, types of tune, stories about the history and performances across a wide variety of instruments and of course **ceilidh dances**. During a residency The children learn a **repertoire of dances** that they get to perform in a big ceilidh at the end. If the School chooses they can even book an **end of year** ceilidh with **Monster ceilidh Band**.

Kieran and Alistair share their **passion for folk music** with kids by playing inspirational folk music to **listen to, reflect on and dance to**.

## Benefits for Schools

These workshops not only introduce children to folk music and dance but also:

- Introduces the **foundations of music** to children in a fun way underpinning and re-enforcing their future musical development for the schools other musical activities
- Lets them interact with a **live musical performance** whilst also freeing them from having to sit down and be quiet
- Self **confidence boost** as they learn a skill in a group setting.
- Learn **cooperation** by having to move in time - otherwise they will fall over!
- We teach them how to describe and **evaluate music** helping them more **deeply concentrate** on music.
- Our performances help discriminate between **different styles, sounds and compositions**.
- They learn the **history of the music** and in tern **local and national history**.
- We introduce the kids to folk music **composers** in turn Strengthening **cultural awareness** of North East heritage
- Financial - the school benefits from qualifying for **PE and Sport Premium Funding** spreading the cost.
- building a lexicon of **musical vocabulary**
- Encourage **creativity with movement**



## Ceilidh Workshops Packages

Basically our package is 1- 4 x 1 hour workshops which can be delivered to 1 or more classes.

Each hour session comprises 2-3 mini performances, learning and musical Q&A, learning 2-3 ceilidh dances and in between dances rest and musical reflection periods. All our workshops include two musicians. You can book one off workshops or residencies

**1 hour Ceilidh Workshop** suitable for 1 class includes

**Half Day Ceilidh Workshop** (AM or PM) suitable for 2 classes.

**Full Day Ceilidh Workshop** (AM and PM) suitable for 4 classes.

**Half Term Residency** 6x1 hour ceilidh workshops delivered every week

**Term Residency** 12x1 hour ceilidh workshops delivered every week

## Resources Needed

- Large space to move and dance - the school hall is perfect for this.
- Classroom teacher or teaching assistant present for safeguarding and behavior support
- 2 Chairs for the musicians
- A plug socket for amplification

## Curriculum Links

Ceilidh Monsters aims to introduce kids to music and help develop their love of music through folk music performance and ceilidh dance. We've been delighted to discover folk music and dance's multiple benefits for kids and how it meets so many National Curriculum requirements, specifically

### Music

- KS1: Listening, rhythm, group learning
- KS2: Ensemble, memory, performance

### PE (Dance)

- KS1: Movement patterns, coordination
- KS2: Technique, collaboration, group performance

### PSHE / SMSC

- KS1: Cultural awareness, teamwork
- KS2: Self-confidence, resilience, celebrating heritage

## Typical Activities

- **Performance:** a mini performance to inspire the children and excite them about dancing to and listening to folk music.
- **Rhythm activity:** call and response, walking the pulse with their feet
- **Dance Learning Activity:** the children pair up and start learning the dance slowly, learning about cooperation, how to move as a group and the importance of pulse. They also listen to musical clues in the structure of the music to help.
- **Ceilidh Dance:** performance of the ceilidh dance
- **Recovery, performance for listening and Q+A:** the children then rest whilst more music is played and are encourage to listen and answer questions on the music after
- **Goodbye Tune:** This is a slow piece for the children to reflect and relax

