



# Engaging children aged 7 to 12

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Notes from the 'Children meet music' working community meeting 10th March 2014

## **How can we more meaningfully engage children aged 7 to 12 in school and family settings?**

Advice from the group:

- Choose short pieces
- Commission appropriate pieces
- Create programmes that move between rooms/spaces e.g. in a museum/gallery
- Play pieces more than once
- Create opportunities for audience feedback
- Invite children to lie down and close their eyes
- Include storytelling, drawing and writing, moving and dancing
- Create education packs including documents and CDs
- Take school students out of school

Dagna Sadkowska from the Polish ensemble, Kwartludium, has written an inspiring interactive guide entitled 'Contemporary Music: Creative Encounters' full of practical ways of engaging children with new music. It includes cross art form activities for different age groups with helpful videos, soundtracks and other resources. Many of the activities involve works by well-established living composers. Find it in English at <http://issuu.com/musiceducation/docs/music-education-handbook> There is also a Polish version.