



THE MUSIC PARTNERSHIP

"Ensuring all young people have the opportunity to sing, learn an instrument and perform as part of an ensemble or choir."

Newsletter - Autumn 2020

In this issue...

Welcome

A Message from the Chair of our Board

Survey results from Staffordshire

Events, Workshops & CPD Opportunities 2020/21

Secondary Curriculum Matters

Art Brasil - Workshops for Schools 2020/21

MusicShare News

Walton High School - Transition Case Study

The Power of Music - Case Study

Charanga - Music Benefits All Young People

Awards for Young Musicians

Staffordshire Music Centre, Rehearsals and Festivals

Music Mark - Articles and Resources



Welcome

Dear Headteacher and Music Lead,

It's been over twelve months since we launched **The Music Partnership** as the new identity for Department for Education funded music education work delivered across Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent and Telford & Wrekin and what a year it's been! 2020 started with aspirations for a 'Big Month of Music' in March which was set to be one of the biggest national celebrations of music-making in schools to date. How lucky we were that much of this programme was planned to be delivered digitally and was a great success at the end of March.

Echoing the sentiments of our Board chair who has kindly written below, I know all our partners would like to thank schools for all their efforts to find ways to work with us and their families to keep music education alive through lockdown. We've engaged with thousands of families through this time and know from surveys and individual conversations that a weekly music lesson has often been a key highlight for pupils and, in some cases, their parents too. None of this would have been possible without the dedicated work of our schools who have passed on key information on our behalf and given support and backing to our adapted ways of working.

In previous editions of this newsletter, I have spoken about the impending review and publication of a revised National Plan for Music Education which is to take us all forward to 2030. Covid-19 has somewhat delayed this process but we know from continuing dialogue with the DfE that music education remains a strong priority for them, schools and our communities and I will update further once details and timescales emerge.

In the interim, **The Music Partnership** remains committed to ensuring all young people can sing, learn an instrument and perform as part of an ensemble or choir. This is a challenging aspiration even in more 'normal' times, given the vast pupil population across our region and our reliance on the continued additional financial contributions made by our parents, schools and charitable funders.

To realise these ambitions, particularly in these uncertain times, our partners are committed to "doing the things that others can't do" when it comes to music education and I wanted to highlight some of the key characteristics which make this partnership, and the organisations within it, truly special:

- Inclusive practice as a key thread throughout our thinking, language, training, CPD, delivery and reporting.
- Practitioners who are experts in their field, well-trained and highly adaptive to school and family needs.
- Experienced across a range of settings, including digital and with different styles, genres and sizes of pupil groupings.
- Knowing that 'Youth Voice' and 'Child Centred Delivery' are key in all planning, delivery and assessment.
- Ensuring musical progression is always a key priority and measure of quality.
- Enabling targeted support (e.g. funding for individuals or activities) that reaches those most in need.
- Knowing that in times of crisis, bespoke solutions must be offered alongside flexibility.

At times through the spring and summer, it has sometimes felt that music education has never been more at risk. However, despite some initial messaging around "catch up curriculum" or "reduced breadth in the short term", it is encouraging that the

previous focus on a broad and balanced curriculum offer has remained in place and many schools across our region have continued to make music a priority. There will certainly be continued 'lumps and bumps' to the whole picture of school delivery through 2020-21 but we're delighted that schools are continuing to find innovative ways to enable activity rather than to curtail it. Whether it is with continued advocacy to the DfE, targeting specific funding and support, facilitating CPD or providing teaching, the organisations within **The Music Partnership** are here to work locally with schools, families, communities and young people so please stay in contact through the year as we all continue to adapt.

Within this newsletter you will find details of how our partners have been, and are, adapting provision for the year ahead alongside key case studies, news articles and celebrations from earlier in 2020. I hope you find this useful in identifying what is possible for the year ahead and please do contact us for further information or to help with planning your offer.

Best wishes for a successful 2020/21.



John Callister

Head of Service, Entrust Music Service Staffordshire
Email: john.callister@entrust-ed.co.uk

Statement from The Music Partnership Board and our Chair, Andrew Worrall

On behalf of The Music Partnership Board I would like to thank all our partners and staff for the extraordinary efforts you have made to sustain music education during the pandemic. Activities appearing online and individual support given to children and schools have been outstanding. The Board is aware of how difficult the situation continues to be for all our professional colleagues. We have been meeting regularly to assess the situation, share solutions and plan the way forward. We will continue to do our utmost to support you all.

There will be a time when face to face lessons, rehearsals and performances can resume. New ways of working which have emerged have also demonstrated their value and will continue. You will read about some of the things which have been going on in schools and online elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as the results of a survey which we have carried out which shows evidence of the high demand for the Hub's work and the high regard for its services. We urge all schools to keep talking to their Hub partners. We are all committed to flexible and realistic solutions which are focussed on the needs of children.

We are determined that whatever the situation in the new school year, there will be a vibrant and high quality music partnership to meet the needs of all our schools and students.

Andrew Worrall
Chair

Survey Results in Staffordshire

In June, the Music Service launched a parental survey to assess the impact of digital music delivery from March to mid-June 2020 and ask key questions about the summer and autumn terms.

We were delighted to receive almost 600 responses and the results are very interesting:

- Total Responses: **574**
- **90% of families** felt digital music lessons were a good or excellent experience
- **88% stated** that music lessons were 'essential' or 'important' for the year ahead
- Overwhelmingly, returning to **face to face teaching** asap was a key request
- Parents not having the details of **how lessons would re-start** was a key challenge
- There was very little concern about the **safety of face to face lessons** in school
- Summer **digital provision** was requested and has been provided
- **Many families** did not know specifically what the term 'ensemble' meant

Beyond changing our language to make it more accessible ("music groups" rather than "ensembles" for example) it is encouraging to see that digital provision has been valued as an interim solution for many families. It is a useful addition to the response to Covid-19 but clearly does not replace the value our families place on face to face learning.

Our partners and services are music education experts and are best placed to work with schools and families on re-starting face to face provision safely. Please contact your local music service to discuss planning and risk assessments.



#Can Do Music

We are supporting the #CanDoMusic Campaign

#CanDoMusic is a solutions-based campaign to help schools and music providers overcome the challenges of Covid-19. It aims to equip schools and other education settings/providers with clear guidance, resources and practical and creative ideas, so that they can make music happen in and out of the classroom. It also seeks to ensure that music is at the heart of post-lockdown school life.

This campaign has two strands:

- A website www.CanDoMusic.org which acts as a signpost to practical resources from across the music education sector that teachers can explore and use to ensure that music is part of the solution in every school's recovery plan.
- A social media campaign **#CanDoMusic** which has started an online conversation, directs people to the website and helps to share and signpost great ideas, resources and solutions for keeping music at the heart of learning for all children and young people from the start of the autumn term.

You can join by...

- Sharing your resource URL, in no more than 30 words contextualising what it is and who it's for with fi.simpson@musicmark.org
- Share your stories and support on social media, just use **#CanDoMusic** when you post.



Manchester Camerata's Mini Music Makers and More!

By Lizzie Hoskins, Head of Camerata in the Community

Mini Music Makers was our immediate response to the need to entertain and educate primary school-age children who were at home for the duration of the coronavirus lockdown. We launched a series of new online videos, each led by one of our specialist resident 'Camerata in the Community' musicians and aimed at kids aged 5-7yrs.

The videos include fun games, music-making, craft and singalongs and each last about 15-20 minutes. We now have a full 10 episodes on our Manchester Camerata YouTube channel, which have been watched and shared over 4000 times! You can watch them all here: <https://manchestercamerata.co.uk/mini-music-makers-series-one/>

We are thinking of refining and adapting these videos for an older range of pupils as schools return in September, so watch this space and our social media channels for updates.



Encountering Wordsworth Project

As Covid-19 scuppered our plans for a live concert to celebrate Wordsworth's 250th birthday up in Grasmere, Cumbria, we made a short film-collage instead!

Arranged by composer Laura Bowler and put together by sound artist Dan Fox, with music composed by young composers (16 yrs.) and poems written by primary school children in Cumbria during lockdown, the end result was a celebration of all the young people's efforts so far: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9ulEB5WNYw> The concert has been rescheduled to April 2021 (to celebrate Wordsworth's 250th + 1 birthday!).

Unstoppable

We've also made this animated video with Manchester's Webster Primary about their move from primary to secondary school <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzkcaSXHPmE> – expect more of this for next time, the pupils absolutely loved it! It's called 'Unstoppable' (lyrics attached).

We're just finishing a round of training videos for primary school teachers to upskill our Manchester primary school teachers as well as part of our 'City of Songs' project, as well as doing online masterclasses for those who teach A-Level music/GCSE. We hope to be able to introduce some of the above project-styles into our planning for Staffordshire, Stoke and Telford schools, as/when possible, and we'll begin to plan our next 'Create with Camerata' project in September!

If you have enjoyed our Mini Music Makers project, or would like more information on any of the above and want to find out more, please get in touch with Lizzie:

LHoskin@manchestercamerata.com



Events Workshops and CPD Opportunities

Autumn Term 2020 - Spring/Summer Term 2021

Performance times and rehearsal times may be subject to change, please check the events section of our website, www.themusicpartnership.org.uk, to confirm.



Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

City Music Stoke-on-Trent Events

Telford & Wrekin Music Service Events

Music Partnership Events

September 2020

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

FOSYM Awards Evening - Postponed to later date

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm Rehearsal: 6:00pm Participants: Music Award Winners - Grade 8 + and Nominations Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Stafford, ST16 3TH

'Digital Rehearsals' through September to November for all instruments, pupils and adults - taking part is **FREE** of charge.

October 2020

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

City Music Service - Primary Network Meeting - 15 October 2020

Time: 4:15pm-5:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Primary Music Leads and Teachers Venue: Microsoft Teams tbc

Soundpots Early Years Network Meeting - 20 October 2020

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Early Years Practitioners Venue: Microsoft Teams tbc

December 2020

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Virtual Christmas Festivals

Performances by Staffordshire Schools and Ensembles, all supported by The Music Service and MusicShare
Full details to be confirmed.



Spring 2021

January 2021

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 24 January 2021

Time: 11:00am-4:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 31 January 2021

Time: 1:30pm-4:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

Stoke-on-Trent Young Musician of the Year Preliminary Rounds - 25 January 2021

Time: 4:00pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Instrumentalists and Singers beginners to advanced Venue: TBC

Stoke-on-Trent Young Musician of the Year Preliminary Rounds - 26 January 2021

Time: 4:00pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Instrumentalists and Singers beginners to advanced Venue: TBC

Stoke-on-Trent Young Musician of the Year Preliminary Rounds - 27 January 2021

Time: 4:00pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Instrumentalists and Singers beginners to advanced Venue: TBC

February 2021

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 7 February 2021

Time: 1:30pm-4:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 28 February 2021

Time: 1:30pm-4:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

Soundpots Early Years Network Meeting - 3 Feb 2021

Time: 4:00pm-5:15pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Early Years Practitioners Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

City Music Service Primary Network Meeting - 8 Feb 2021

Time: 4:15pm-5:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: N/A Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

> continued

March 2021

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 7 March 2021

Time: 1:30pm-4:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

Big Sing North - 10 March 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30am Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Staffordshire Sings Rehearsal - 14 March 2021

Time: 1:30pm-4:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

Staffordshire Sings Concert - Date tbc

Time: 7:30pm-9:30pm Rehearsal: 1:30pm Participants: County Chorus and any singers 15+ Venue: Lichfield Cathedral, The Close, Lichfield, WS13 7LD

Rotary Stafford - 24 March 2021

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm Rehearsal: 1:30pm Participants: Stafford Centre and school choirs Venue: Stafford Showground, Weston Road, Stafford ST18 0BD

Young Musician + Singer Competition 2021 - 27 March 2021

Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm Rehearsal: All day Participants: Instrumentalists/Singers beginners to advanced Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

Stoke-on-Trent Young Musician of the Year Final - 19 March 2021

Time: 6:15pm-8:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Young Musician Finalists Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

KS2 Choir Concert - Date tbc

Time: 6:45pm-8:15pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS2 Choirs and CMS ensembles Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Music Partnership Events

The Music Partnership Recorder Festivals - 23 March 2021 (tbc)

Time: 12:30pm-1:45pm Rehearsal: AM Participants: Recorder pupils beginners to advanced Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AA

The Music Partnership Recorder Festivals - 24 March 2021 (tbc)

Time: 12:30pm-1:45pm Rehearsal: AM Participants: Recorder pupils beginners to advanced Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Summer 2021

June 2021

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Burton Music Centre Concert - 14 June 2021

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: TBC

Big Sing South - 15 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Wombourne (venue tbc)

WCET South - 15 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Wombourne (venue tbc)

Big Sing Tamworth - 18 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30am Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

WCET Tamworth - 18 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

Tamworth Centre Concert - 19 June 2021

Time: 3:00pm-5:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: St Paul's Church, Coleshill St, Fazeley, Tamworth, B78 3RQ

Newcastle Music Centre Concert - 19 June 2021

Time: 6:30pm-9:30pm Rehearsal: 9:00am-12:00pm Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: Keele Chapel, Keele University, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 5BG

Big Sing Burton - 21 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Burton Town Hall, King Edward Place, Burton-on-Trent, DE14 2EB

WCET Burton - 21 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Burton Town Hall, King Edward Place, Burton-on-Trent, DE14 2EB

Big Sing Stafford - 23 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Stafford Showground, Weston Road, Staffs, ST18 0BD

WCET Stafford - 23 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Stafford Showground, Weston Road, Staffs, ST18 0BD

Stafford Music Centre Concert - 23 June 2021

Time: 6:30pm-9:00pm Rehearsal: 5:00pm Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: Stafford Showground, Weston Road, Staffs, ST18 0BD

Big Sing North - 24 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

WCET North - 24 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Moorlands Music Centre Concert - 24 June 2021

Time: 7:00pm-9:30pm Rehearsal: 5:30pm Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Cannock Music Centre Concert - 26 June 2021

Time: 1:30pm-3:30pm Rehearsal: 9:30pm-1:00pm Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: Cardinal Griffin Catholic College, Cardinal Way, Stafford Rd, Cannock, WS11 4AW

Lichfield-Rugeley Music Centre Concert - 26 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

Lichfield-Rugeley Music Centre Concert Regional - 26 June 2021

Time: 4:30pm-7:30pm Rehearsal: 4:00pm Participants: Centre Ensembles Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

WCET Uttoxeter - 28 June 2021 (TBC)

Time: 10:30am-11:30am Rehearsal: 9:30am Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Uttoxeter Racecourse, Wood Lane, Uttoxeter, ST14 8DB

Big Sing 2 Tamworth - 29 June 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30am Rehearsal: NA Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

WCET Tamworth - 29 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: The Coton Centre, Comberford Rd, Tamworth, B79 9AA

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

Soundpots Early Years Music Conference - 17 June 2021

Time: 9:00pm-4:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Early Years Practitioners/Music Teachers Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

City Songbirds Summer Concerts - 28 June 2021

Time: 6:45pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: AM Participants: City Songbirds and CMS ensembles Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

City Songbirds Summer Concerts - 29 June 2021

Time: 6:45pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: AM Participants: City Songbirds and CMS ensembles Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

City Songbirds Summer Concerts - 30 June 2021

Time: 6:45pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: AM Participants: City Songbirds and CMS ensembles Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD

Music Partnership Events**The Music Partnership Music Summit - 18 June 2021**

Time: 09:00pm-4:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: Heads of Music, Music Leads, Music Teachers Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

July 2021**Entrust Music Service Staffordshire Events**

Contact: musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Young Musician + Singer Competition FINAL 2021 - 4 July 2021

Time: 9:30am-4:30pm Rehearsal: all day Participants: Instrumentalists/Singers beginners to advanced Venue: Entrust Riverway Centre, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH

Big Sing Cannock - 5 July 2021

Time: 10:00am-11:30am Rehearsal: N/A Participants: KS1 Classes Venue: Prince of Wales Theatre, Church St, Cannock, WS11 1DE

WCET Cannock - 5 July 2021

Time: 2:00pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 12:45pm Participants: WCET Classes Venue: Prince of Wales Theatre, Church St, Cannock, WS11 1DE

City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent Events

Contact: citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk

City Music Service Ensemble Concerts - 6 July 2021

Time: 6:15pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: N/A Participants: CMS ensembles Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

City Music Service Ensemble Concerts - 7 July 2021

Time: 6:15pm-8:00pm Rehearsal: NA Participants: CMS ensembles Venue: Bridge Centre, Birches Head Rd, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

Music Partnership Events**The Hallé 'Come and Play' Concert - Free tickets for schools - 9 July 2021**

Time: 2:15pm-3:15pm Rehearsal: 1:15pm Participants: School Groups/ instruments and choir or audience Venue: Victoria Hall, Bagnall St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD





FREE TO ATTEND

MUSIC SUMMIT 2021



Friday 18th June 2021, 9:00am-4:00pm
The Bridge Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD
MUSIC EDUCATION IN THE NEW NORMAL

Don't miss out on a stimulating, informative networking day!

All music leads/those delivering music at schools from across the hub are invited to attend.

Workshops include:

- Latest Ofsted News
- Behaviour Management
- Assessment
- Youth Voice
- BTEC and GCSE Helpline
- A Beginners Guide to Composing

FEDERATION OF MUSIC
EDUCATION HUBS



BOOK NOW

To book your place please email
musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Secondary Curriculum Matters

By Graeme Rudland, Secondary Music Consultant for *The Music Partnership*



Being prepared for the 'new normal'

With regular guidance emerging from Central Government and Music Associations, we all need to keep up-to-date with what is being recommended as we move into the new world of Covid-19 safe teaching and learning. Much of the guidance is advisory and so schools need to make their own decisions about how to manage the situation, so there can be no "one size fits all" formula for moving forward.

However, whatever difficulties we face, we must maintain our enthusiasm and passion for music and its value. Despite hints and leaks in June of the possibility that music may be dropped in favour of core subjects, this was not the case when the government guidance was published on 2nd July.

We were heartened to read that there is an expectation for a broad range of subjects to be taught from years 7 to 9 and that the arts are included in that list. What we are being asked to do is to prioritise the most important components within the subject for progression. In this respect, we may need to decide between quality and breadth of coverage, recognising also that some activities will just not be possible for the foreseeable future.

We need to go through our curriculum maps highlighting the essential components which will enable our pupils to move forward in their musical understanding and skills, then planning and delivering activities which support this.

More than ever, the value of music in terms of social and emotional development needs to be capitalised upon. Music can play a key role in helping children and young people to recover from the consequences of the pandemic and emotional impact of wider societal changes.

Through careful planning and delivery of safe activities, music can help children to

- rebuild their social interactions and teamwork skills
- express their feelings and control their emotions
- divert attention from concerns
- reinstate motivation to engage in activity together
- regain a sense of routine

A very useful document in this respect, produced by another music hub can be found online at <https://www.triboroughmusichub.org/school-services/music-education-recovery-curriculum/>



Keeping in contact with each other

In the new teaching situation, there is good reason to keep in contact with each other to share ideas and successes and to explore new ways of working.

In June and July, *The Music Partnership* ran two sets of network meetings for secondary teachers and these were exceptionally well attended. The benefits of online networking which avoids the need to travel to a venue were so great that we had to ask ourselves the question "Why didn't we think of this before?". The July meetings offered the opportunity for leaders of the three music services to share plans for the new academic year with teachers in their authority as well as engaging staff in a general discussion about the challenges of teaching music to whole classes.

One topic which was touched upon was how we acknowledge online learning which has taken place during lockdown. It was clear that there are two schools of thought on this. One is that the work pupils may have done during lockdown needs to be positively recognised and built on. The other is that those who were unable to undertake tasks because of lack of facilities to do so at home must not feel further disadvantaged.

Some colleagues said that they had been told not to overtly acknowledge work done during the summer term and others were encouraging teachers to assess it. The important thing must be that for those who have gained new knowledge and skills, opportunity exists for them to build upon on them and not repeat ground they have already covered. Our planning must therefore embrace both groups.

In the autumn term we hope to run meetings for secondary teachers led by experts from the examination groups as well as having meetings to share experiences of the "new normal" in the classroom.

continued >



We continue to provide an opportunity for the sharing of ideas on The Music Partnership Secondary Teachers' Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2162547484074115/>.

Signposts to new guidance as and when it emerges, will also be posted here. Other discussion forums can also be found and followed on Facebook and other social media platforms. One that is particularly busy with ideas for Key Stage 3 is called "Key Stage 3 Music – Hints and Tips", which also has a section dedicated to new official announcements. This too will be worth keeping an eye on as we move into the autumn term.

<https://www.facebook.co./groups/KS3music>

Here is a positive comment made by a teacher on the above group:

"Boom whackers and a bucket of Dettol. Drumsticks for chair drumming. Have as much fun as possible, make noise, connect as a group and bring joy. I am going to try my best never to let my frustrations of not being able to use instruments show to the kids so we can have a great time and continue to promote the adaptability and importance of music making even in difficult times."



The Inspector Calls...

At the beginning of July, Ofsted announced their plans moving forward into the next academic year. In **September** inspectors will be piloting visits to find out how schools and colleges are managing the return to full time education with a small sample of volunteer schools. These visits, which will be ungraded, will be rolled out to a sample of all schools between **October** and **December**.

Provisionally, Ofsted plans to return to the full inspection cycle in **January**. The only full inspections that will take place in the autumn term will be of schools where serious safeguarding concerns have been raised.



GCSE and A-Level Examinations

New adjusted requirements for GCSE and A-Level examinations were published in early August. By the time this newsletter is published it is hoped that examination groups will have announced how these are to be implemented in the context of their own specifications.

The quantity of coursework required has been substantially reduced and the ensemble requirement relaxed which is helpful in the light of current restrictions. Across all subjects there are no plans to allow reduction in the content of the specifications, and whilst in some subjects there are modifications of the amount of content to be assessed in examination papers, there is no reference to such modifications in music. The consultation outcome document is available on the [government website](#).

Advice and Support

Graeme Rudland and Rachel Hayes continue to work as consultants for secondary teachers and can be contacted as follows:

graeme.rudland@entrust-music.co.uk
rachel.hayes@entrust-music.co.uk

They are available for phone or video consultation for which there is no charge.





ART BRASIL

Body Moves & Grooves

Workshops for Schools in 2020/21

ART BRASIL is a North Staffordshire based non-profit collective of music and dance specialists with over 10 years experience in bringing Brazilian carnival to schools all over the UK.

For 2020/21 we have developed a new programme of workshops called **Body Moves & Grooves** with ART BRASIL that can be delivered outdoors, or in any indoor space that allows for safe social-distancing between our team and your class bubble.

Body Moves & Grooves is a jam-packed whistle stop tour of Brazilian carnival traditions, using dance and body percussion to experience a range of styles including samba, samba-reggae, maracatu and many more. The workshops are delivered by a lead dance/music artist and a supporting musician who accompanies live with a full set-up of samba drums to bring the carnival vibe to life.

For more info please contact Mika on info@artbrasil.org.uk

MADULA Update

MADULA is a young person's project based in the North Staffordshire area offering opportunities for young people to experience and involve themselves in exciting music with artists from all over the world.

From an original group of some 20 young people in 1998, the project name **Madula** has become an umbrella term which covers a core base group of 65, but also hundreds more throughout the Midlands who have benefited through the powerful medium of world music in workshop and performance and so have been "Joined by a Drum."

Madula has kept connected to our participants & communities through online activities throughout the shutdown, supported by Arts Council England. We have developing our provision of Arts Award qualified activities & learning, so that it is accessible & achievable both online and through socially-distanced workshops, where safe and appropriate. Please find some links to **Madula's** project work below – feel free to share through your newsletter & networks.

Madula's work with our partner schools in North Staffs:
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=276576597091107>

Madula's work with excluded young people in Telford & Wrekin and Cheshire:
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=289189825795565>

Madula's on-going work with International artists:
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3482240545121984>

Music is the Key

To cope with the constraints of lockdown the **In Harmony** teaching team produced teaching videos and a performance video for **In Harmony** so that young musicians could continue practising at home.

The piece is entitled 'Music is the Key' and was composed by Jeremy Clay and Miriam Kitchener, giving a positive message about music bringing a sense of community despite the isolation of lockdown. It included singing and body percussion parts for those who were unable to take their instruments home during lockdown. We hope that we will be able to continue working on the piece in the new school year.

Lockdown Resources for In Harmony

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCEqLiWwOTepWRgJD-7pdsIP226cgWF6vt>

MUSIC SHARE

MusicShare is a singing outreach project involving Lichfield Cathedral Choristers/Young Singing Leaders supported by a partnership between Lichfield Cathedral School and Lichfield Cathedral and substantially funded by Arts Council England via *The Music Partnership*.



The well-worn sentence springs to mind – what strange times we are all living in! Like many of us, having to reform a finely-tuned machine without any of the usual resources whilst working from home and home-schooling, has made life challenging. Perhaps the biggest and yet most rewarding challenge of this period has been upskilling technologically. If, like me, you were pretty good at word-processing and basic Microsoft programmes but little more, it has been a massively steep learning curve!

So, how has MusicShare functioned in this uncertain time?

- Mini Voices (0-5 year olds and their carers)
- Young Voices (6-12 year olds)
- Youth Voices (13-18 year olds)
- Ladies who Lark (18+)

We decided, for various reasons, that we would go down the route of sending out rehearsal videos to our groups. We did not even consider running live lessons due to the fact that our groups came from a huge variety of settings – it made more sense to send out a video weekly at our normal rehearsal times. That meant people could 'tune in' when they were best able to do so around their 'new normal' lives. This has meant a huge amount of time spent learning to master Adobe Premiere Pro as a video editing tool – but this has opened endless exciting possibilities such as being able to demonstrate rounds and harmony parts with simply oneself, due to the ability to multi-track aurally and visually.

In addition to some 40+ videos that were sent to our groups during the Summer Term, we have also taken advantage of the opportunity to send a weekly training video to our **MusicShare** Young Singing Leaders. This is a mixture of current choristers, former choristers, and musical students at Lichfield Cathedral School who make up a team of youngsters who help me deliver the project out in schools. The *raison d'être* of these leaders has always been to show that if you dedicate time and effort to master a particular subject then you can achieve extraordinary things – the marvellous thing is that our Young Singing Leaders gain so much themselves, because they learn so many transferable skills, not just musical ones.

In our work with the **The Music Partnership**, we have produced a plan that is possible and useful in a virtual world for schools. To date, we have produced 8 Hub Singing Assemblies, all of which are available on Entrust and City Music Service YouTube channels

or Telford & Wrekin Music's Facebook Page. In the first of these Hub Singing Assemblies we have also included a song called 'The New Normal' which I wrote in a rare moment of inspiration. We have also produced the first in a new series of newsletters from MusicShare, which point you in the direction of the latest science and guidelines on singing plus lots of ideas for repertoire and resources.



Visit the resources section of **The Music Partnership** website, www.themusicpartnership.org.uk to see MusicShare's newsletter. Within this first newsletter you will find a link to the resources for 'The New Normal' so do go and click this link to read – and on-going there will be a newsletter from **MusicShare** every half-term.

Moving forward we will be producing some exciting online projects for Early Years, Primary and Secondary plus some teacher training resources that will link to the Hub curriculum documents so please do watch this space (contacts for this are also on the newsletter). One of the things I am most excited to launch is a song sharing platform for teachers, which will be on Zoom monthly. I am always being asked for resources so this is your chance to pick my brain and to share your own favourite songs! The idea is we will sing through lots of repertoire as I find this is by far the best way of determining whether something will work for you and your students – so often songs do not easily lift off the page of a book!

These will happen on the first Friday of every month from September onwards. Do book for your Zoom link via musicshare@lichfieldcathedralschool.com. More information for these sessions is also in our newsletter.

I firmly believe that music, singing and the arts are even more crucial than ever in seeing our way out of the fog of this crisis – so let's find positive ways to move forward together!

Cathy Lamb
Director of MusicShare

Transition

from Val Lewis, Head of Music,
Walton High School, Stafford

CASE STUDY



There is undoubtedly something that happens between the summer term production in Y6 and the first term in Y7 where so many young people begin to think that music is no longer important.

I have no doubt that many Y7 students feel that they can hide their musical talents behind the anonymity of starting a new school, and the challenge of admitting their musicality is just too much. Perhaps it is the excitement of so many different activities on offer that means music takes a back seat. This year, with all the uncertainties surrounding Covid-19, and the questions being posed about the "risks" of musical activities and "social distancing", not just in school but in the wider world too, the challenge will no doubt be even greater. With the normal transition activities cancelled this year, we all had to find different ways of reaching out to our feeder primaries with questionnaires, musical quizzes or PowerPoint presentations advertising the activities that will (hopefully) be on offer in September. So, if things ever return to normal, we need to think about what we can do, as secondary teachers and musicians, to encourage, cajole or persuade students to keep the rhythm going?

At Walton High School, we have developed activities over the years which we feel can help bridge the gap between primary and secondary school. Contact your music co-ordinators in the primary feeder schools: they may not be music specialists, and often welcome ideas and suggestions that a group chat can enable. See if you can build time into your teaching timetable to undertake regular visits to feeder primaries. In the past, I have done sets of lessons for Y6 pupils as a transition activity – Y5 may be an appropriate target too. Once you have your Pyramid group set up, begin to think about the kinds of activities that could work for you. For over 20 years, we have held an annual Pyramid Concert, involving singers from our feeder primaries and our school choir (about 160 singers in all!). The format is very simple – chose a theme (recently we have taken the National Sing Up Day song as our concert theme), select 4 or 5 songs that we can all sing together, and each school chooses a "spotlight song" to perform based on the concert theme. Be adventurous and include songs in parts (partner songs are great for this), even some

audience participation – getting the headteachers to demonstrate their percussion skills is always popular! A concert that lasts about an hour is perfect.

Primary schools are eager to welcome visits from older pupils. Take a group of GCSE students to perform their exam pieces – particularly good if they are former students – and get them to talk about why they have continued with their music studies. It is excellent performance practice for your GCSE and A-Level or BTEC students too. This leads us neatly into instrumental transition. Whole class music tuition in primary schools sounded like a brilliant idea at first, but many of us have seen a drastic reduction in the numbers of pupils continuing their instrumental tuition beyond this, especially as tight budgets have forced many primary schools to look at how to deliver limited resources to as many students as possible. It is worth asking how schools follow up their whole class tuition. Some years ago, one of my peripatetic teachers came up with the idea of a "Clarinet Extravaganza". We sent invitations out to clarinettists of any ability to join us at the high school for a morning's rehearsal followed by a short concert at lunchtime.

This has grown from about 20 participants in the first year to well over 100 in this our 8th year. Ranging from complete beginners to grade 8 pupils, we now include flutes and saxophones, and again based around a simple theme, we play some pieces all together with parts of varying difficulty. This allows us to also showcase some of our more advanced students with solo and ensemble work. The emphasis is on the fun element of making music, and what you can achieve if you keep going. It is also a great way of introducing musicians to each other across the year groups and giving younger students a taste of what it is like to be in the big school. Last year, we piloted a similar idea with our "Brass Fiesta" and it should have been followed up with a "String Spectacular" had Covid-19 not interfered! There is so much scope for similar ideas with guitars, even samba bands, depending what you feel will work for you.

Happy music making!

Sing Up subscriptions vary depending on the size of the school, but it is an excellent resource for classroom, concerts and assemblies for all year groups from reception to GCSE and beyond.



- Enjoy full access to our Song Bank
- Songs and activity plans to support learning across the curriculum
- Interactive whiteboard mode with scrolling lyrics & notation
- Logins for all teachers at your school

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GUESS WHAT?

We believe in the power of music!

CASE STUDY

A collaboration between Make Some Noise and Telford & Wrekin Music (both core partners in *The Music Partnership*) enabled both organisations to encourage learning and foster skills growth opportunities for music professionals of all ages and experiences. Having a highly skilled team compliments the quality of the delivery, something both organisations were keen to maintain and develop further by providing the Certificate for Music Education, for the first time.

Professional musicians, some established tutors and mentors and some looking at this qualification as their launch pad into this career signed up to the Level 4 Certificate for Music Educators accredited by Trinity College, London. The Certificate is a flexible learning programme aimed at anyone working as a music educator with children and young people, customised to each learner's needs with assessment based on a portfolio of evidence including realistic analysis in the real working environment. Catching up with one of the musicians who took this course, we found out a little more about his journey.

Since 2016 musician Scott Belle has been working with Make Some Noise on a variety of projects that are proven to show how music making can empower children and young people to become more confident, resulting in a better sense of well-being and achievement for all those involved.

Commenting on his studies, Scott said: *"I'm on a journey to build my skills and knowledge in music education, not only through practical experience, which has been the majority, but also through theory which strengthens those experiences. I wanted to add to my portfolio of expertise which is why the Certificate for Music Educators appealed to me. The course helped me to look back over my time as a music educator and see the development through different avenues. For anyone considering a career in music education I would say that the practical experience and the theoretical knowledge go hand-in-hand and without one of them, you lose the beauty of why, what and how you're doing something."*

Tracy Hall, Music Team Leader at Telford & Wrekin Music commented: *"Although the tutors that took part had lots of practical experience joining the course allowed them to develop a better understanding of the principles and practice of working with young people and gave them an opportunity to improve their skills and knowledge in a more theoretical base which they may not have had an opportunity to do in their normal peripatetic role."*

This unique collaboration brought together musicians from the community music sector and the music service sector, studying and sharing experiences together. Made possible thanks to the funding from the National Foundation for Youth Music, who share Make Some Noise and Telford & Wrekin Music's belief that the power of music should be accessible regardless of background.

Music benefits all young people. We can help you teach it safely.



Covid-19 may have changed the educational landscape for now, but Charanga can help ensure music is, or remains, central to your curriculum and ongoing plans.



Teaching Music Safely

Our award-winning [Musical School Scheme](#) is being adapted for the new term, complete with alternatives to singing and playing blown instruments. It still delivers excellent, progressive learning, and you can be sure it's safe. All will be ready in early August.



Remote Learning with YUMU

Over 41,000 teachers are now actively using the Charanga platform to support students' music-making and learning at home. In the past few months, [YUMU](#), its integrated learning space, has supported over 3/4 million children. Teachers can use it to share their favourite resources, pieces and exercises with their students securely.



Blended & Hybrid Learning

We're giving teachers all the music resources, training and support they need to deliver hybrid, blended, home or school-based learning. We can help you maintain consistency and ensure no child is disadvantaged.



CPD & Training

Although we're not able to offer our usual face-to-face training at the moment, do visit the all-new CPD & Training section once you've logged in. You'll find a series of practical videos, articles and recordings of our most popular webinars there too.



Yet to explore Charanga?

For complimentary 30-day trials of our [Musical School](#) and [VIP Studio Sessions](#) music programmes, simply visit our website and follow the respective links. You can then register for one of our free topical webinars to see what Charanga can do for you and your students.

Need help?

If you have any questions whatsoever, we'd love to hear from you. You can reach the Charanga team at info@charanga.com or by telephoning 01273 823 900.

www.charanga.com

 @CharangaMusic



In Harmony

Year 6 Creative Rap & Music Video

On Thursday 18th June, Year 6 children from Old Park Primary school took part in a specially designed creative music workshop day. Originally due to take place face-to-face, the workshop took place over Microsoft Teams in an experimental way so that 45 children were able to work with 4 creative artists. The children were spread over 4 classrooms, socially distanced from each other and the 4 creative artists worked with them from home.

The children worked with grime artist C4, composer Jeremy Clay, producer Richard Shrewsbury and film-maker Jay Langdell over the course of a day to create their own raps and artwork to be used in a music video. The children filmed their performances and recorded their audio which was then sent through to the artistic team.

Despite the obvious challenges of the situation, the children worked really hard to achieve a fantastic result. The final product was turned into a music video which celebrated their time at school before they transition to secondary school in September.

Watch the video...

You can watch the music video here:
<https://youtu.be/UBXRgWzzhlc>



Awards for Young Musicians

FURTHERING TALENT-LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.



Despite the obvious challenges, it's a very exciting time for the Furthering Talent programme which is delivered between The Music Partnership and Awards for Young Musicians (AYM). Nationally, AYM will be welcoming five new Hub partners into the Furthering Talent family (Bournemouth/Christchurch and Poole, Lewisham, Liverpool, Sunderland and Worcestershire) and will soon be supporting over 500 children from across the country.

Whilst it isn't clear what format instrumental lessons will be taking for the new term, we are continuing to look for new and innovative ways to keep making music so that when things do get moving again, there will be plenty for young people to engage with. Firstly, we've agreed with Charanga that every child on **Furthering Talent** can have a free log in to their wonderful VIP Studio platform at www.vip.charanga.com.

VIP studio is an online recording studio which gives you everything you need to create, produce and release your own music. There is no need for any specialist equipment as it is all hosted on the site – just log in, watch a couple of tutorial videos and you can be making great music within just a few minutes. To really enhance this, we are planning to offer a live VIP workshop with some specialist producers via video calling as one of our future 'Get Together' events. This should be a really exciting experience and will be an opportunity to be creative in a totally new way for many young people. As soon as details are finalised, we will make sure that we share them.

Secondly, from September onwards we are launching our new mentor offer for all **Furthering Talent** students. Since 1998 AYM have supported over 3000 young musicians through our annual Awards programme.

Many of them have gone on to become professional musicians, others are continuing to study music at a higher level, whilst some are simply enjoying full musical lives.

We always try to keep in touch with previous Award winners and we think that their experiences and stories could be a valuable resource for the young people currently on the **Furthering Talent** programme. We've already developed a mentoring programme called Talent to Talent (<https://www.a-y-m.org.uk/a-look-back-at-talent-to-talent/>) the second phase of which is in progress now, and we are taking this learning forward into **Furthering Talent** too. We've recruited some of our previous Awards winners, given them mentoring training (based on our Talent to Talent training) and will now be offering termly mentoring sessions for all **Furthering Talent** students.

Finally, there are still places available on the **Furthering Talent** programme in **The Music Partnership**. You can read more about the programme here <https://www.a-y-m.org.uk/how-we-help-furthering-talent/>. If you would like to talk in more detail please contact Local Coordinator chris.stringer@entrust-ed.co.uk

Free Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Tool

We'd also like to encourage you to go to the resources section of The Music Partnership website (<https://themusicpartnership.org.uk/resources/>) where we have recently added the **Youth Music – How Do I Know How I'm Doing?** – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Tool. This is an easy-to-use self-assessment tool which will help organisations audit their existing work to help develop an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion action plan from scratch, to refine your existing plan or feed into your future business planning.



SSPA Events are delighted to confirm dates for the popular Gotta Sing and Gotta Dance shows in Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent and Shropshire.



Gotta Sing

Gotta Sing is a choir event in professional theatres. Groups are allocated 15 minutes on stage to perform their own choice of songs in the allocated amount of time. There is no specific theme and the show is not a competition.



Gotta Dance

Gotta Dance sees groups/schools allocated 5 minutes per slot on stage to perform their own choice of routine in the allocated amount of time. There is no specific theme and the show is not a competition. Groups are allowed to have more than one slot/dance.

All groups and schools from anywhere in Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent and Shropshire are eligible to participate. We also welcome solo singers to join us!

Dates

Cannock Gotta Sing - Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock

Tuesday 17th November, 2020 (Back up date - Monday 14th June, 2021)

Stafford Gotta Sing - Gatehouse Theatre Stafford

Monday 22nd February, 2021

Wednesday 24th February, 2021

Thursday 25th February, 2021

Friday 26th February, 2021

Stoke Gotta Sing - Mitchell Theatre, Stoke

Monday 1st March, 2021

Shrewsbury Gotta Dance - Severn Theatre, Shrewsbury

Thursday 4th March, 2021

Cannock Gotta Dance - Prince of Wales Theatre Cannock

Monday 15th March, 2021

Tuesday 16th March, 2021

Stafford Gotta Dance - Gatehouse Theatre, Stafford

Wednesday 21st April, 2021

Thursday 22nd April, 2021

Friday 23rd April, 2021

Saturday 24th April, 2021

Telford Gotta Dance - Oakengates Theatre, Telford

Tuesday 25th May, 2021

All participants receive a certificate, Hi Resolution photo and video downloads along with a seat for a minimum of half the show.

To participate please contact:

Stephen Glover

SSPA Events Ltd

stephenglover@sspa-events.com

07793891029

www.facebook.com/GottaSingGottaDance/

www.sspa-events.com



Entrust Music Service

Music Centre, Rehearsals and Festivals Update

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire have risen to the challenge to make sure they have continued to provide the highest quality music education and support to schools and pupils in our area.

Throughout the summer term some of our pupils collaborated to record lock down versions of some well-known pop songs like 'Something Inside so Strong', 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' and 'Shut up and Dance with Me' which can be seen on our YouTube channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfWOibmrnXv5YYUFwZOFWow>)

Meanwhile our staff were busy with digital teaching and also recording inspirational videos to encourage more young people to learn and develop their musical skills, with all the associated benefits that brings.

For Autumn 2020 we have remodelled our ensemble offer to ensure that schools, pupils and their families remain connected and engaged with their learning. We plan to do this in a number of ways, and all of this is free of charge to our parents.

We'll be providing alternative ensemble provision which will continue until we are able to relaunch face to face rehearsals. This will involve live digital rehearsals which will happen after school on the same evening each week. We have already had an encouraging uptake for these and all families have to do is register their interest. Run by music service staff, participants log in via Zoom and play along to prepared click tracks, with music being sent out separately. This will provide a valuable chance to make music and meet other like-minded young people virtually with an opportunity to record a well rehearsed performance for our Virtual Festival social media release.

For further information about Alternative Ensemble provision please contact paul.hughes@entrust-ed.co.uk

Virtual Christmas Festival

Our Virtual Christmas Festival in December 2020 will be a celebration of the musical achievements from Staffordshire schools.

The festival will involve MusicShare and the schools that would normally be involved in Lichfield and Victoria Hall Christmas Events, mixing school choirs, adult choirs and Music Service ensembles (taking place digitally this term). This festival will also showcase a virtual **Staffordshire Sings**. We will be asking all our schools to record a festive performance and share it with us. These will be streamed via our Social Media channels at specific times in December 2020. Performances could be a small choir, class bubble, specific group or an entire key stage. The choice is yours!

For further Virtual Festival event details or to join in, schools should sign up via our email address musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

MUSIC MARK



Music Mark has been working hard to support its membership throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

The initial work focussed on supporting music educators' transition to online teaching, setting up support meetings for key networks so they could share best practice with those facing similar challenges and working with Arts Council England and the Department for Education to ensure music education remains a priority.

On 26th June we hosted a successful digital [Summer Summit](#) including sessions on safe music learning in groups, ways youth orchestras have continued to practice and play together during the pandemic and how to engage with schools as they plan their recovery curriculum. Most recently we've been working on campaigns to ensure that the importance of Music in schools is not side-lined as schools reopen. Below we've brought together some of our key work from recent months, there's further information on our website:

www.musicmark.org.uk and our twitter feed twitter.com/musicmarkuk

Key Articles and Resources



Coronavirus Resources

We have collated information on how Music Education providers can adapt their provision for online learning including some key safeguarding considerations for this new way of working.

www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/online-music-teaching-and-safeguarding/

Our partner organisations have provided a selection of home learning resources. We have sections specifically on EYFS, Primary Teachers and Pupils, Secondary Teachers and Pupils, Parents and general Music Education Resources.

www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/home-learning-resources/



Hub Resilience

Two supplements to Nigel M Taylor's Developing Organisational Resilience documents were released in light of the unprecedented challenges to "normal" ways of working, thinking and planning, brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. The supplements offer a snapshot-response to the most fast-paced of changing scenarios and challenges. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/developing-organisational-resilience-a-guide-for-music-education-hubs/



Music Unlocked

The Music Unlocked Guidance for Schools and Providers has been developed by independent Music Education consultant Gary Griffiths. Academic studies, the Music Mark membership, the Music Teachers' Association, the Music Industries Association, the Incorporated Society of Musicians and the Musicians' Union, individual sector experts, headteachers and teachers were all consulted in the creation of a resource focussed on supporting the safe transition back to learning and playing music as a group. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/music-unlocked-guidance-for-schools-and-music-providers/



Webinars

In addition to the Summer Summit, we've run digital events for our membership including webinars on Gender Diversity, Wellbeing and Licensing in relation to Online Learning and Performing. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/



Music Education Advocacy

Letter to MP template

We have created a template letter to MPs to offer guidance and advice to those concerned about the possibility of losing music provision in their local schools. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/letter-to-your-local-mp-template/

Hub Support Programme

With funding and support from Arts Council England we are developing the Hub Support Programme, launching in August the programme will aim to specifically support Hubs to stabilise in light of the significant impact of Covid-19 on their activity, finances and business models.



The Campaign for Music in School

In addition to the Summer Summit, we've run digital events for our membership including webinars on Gender Diversity, Wellbeing and Licensing in relation to Online Learning and Performing. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/

Ten Things Schools Should Know About Music Campaigns

We are amplifying key messages about WHY schools should have music at the heart of their curriculums via our 10 Thing Schools Should Know About Music campaign. www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/10-things-schools-should-know-about-learning-music/

#CanDoMusic

Stories and resources focussed on HOW schools can have music at their core is the cornerstone of our #CanDoMusic campaign launching in August. Follow the hashtag to find out more.



FRIENDS OF STAFFORDSHIRE'S YOUNG MUSICIANS (FOSYM)



FOSYM provides financial support to enable access to musical learning for children and young people from across the region.

Find out more

For more information, to donate or become a member or supporter, please visit www.fosym.org.uk or contact your local music service.

 @tmpartnership  @tmpartnership
www.themusicpartnership.org.uk

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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

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Friends of Stoke-on-Trent City Music Service
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Lichfield Cathedral Music Share
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Make Some Noise
Manchester Camerata
Music Education Solutions
Music for Youth
My Inter Theatre Company
Normans Instruments

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www.themusicpartnership.org.uk