



Hello everyone,

I hope that you all got to make the most of the Summer break with time to relax with family and friends. The lead up to the end of term is always an incredibly busy time with concerts and leavers' assemblies and I hope they all went well. We ended the year with our 'Out of this World' concert at De Montfort Hall and I'm sure everyone who took part or came to watch will agree it was a fabulous evening showcasing the talent of lots of children and young people. Thank you also to everybody who came to our Summer Music Conference. It was very well supported with lots of positive feedback from all who attended. We are always looking to make it as convenient as possible for people to attend CPD events and we know there were some of you who wanted to come but were unable due to summer term commitments. Our next Conference is planned to be held on 23rd January (hopefully a slightly quieter time if such a thing exists!) with more details to follow in the coming weeks. We've already received requests to book onto our Leics Make Music Festival which is extremely popular. Dates haven't been released yet but watch this space!

This newsletter is to share opportunities for you and your pupils but if you have any items you would like to add, musical moments to share or special requests, please let me know and I will add them to the next one. Happy reading! Beth - Primary Schools Team Leader

National Initiatives and Updates

Curriculum and Assessment review

As I'm sure you are already aware, the new government have launched a Curriculum and Assessment review process that seeks to deliver '*...a broader curriculum, so that children and young people do not miss out on subjects such as music.*' We wait to see what any changes look like over time but will continue to support schools with curriculum and assessment guidance and to communicate expected changes as and when we hear about them.

DfE data returns

All city and county schools will have received a DfE data return request sent via us back in June. It is a requirement that Hubs distribute these and ask schools to return them by the end of September. It takes the form of a short questionnaire about the music that takes place in your setting. The responses help to shape decisions and funding for the future. If you haven't already completed this please follow the [link here](#) to do this.

NPME - Lead Schools

We are delighted to announce that Stafford Leys Primary, St Winefrides Catholic Voluntary Academy and Diseworth C of E Primary have all been appointed as Lead Schools, working alongside us as the Music Hub to provide support across the city and county. This relationship is in its very early stages as yet but we know it will have a strong, positive impact on the support we can offer to schools. There will be a second round of applications for Lead Schools, with a particular focus on City schools. If you are interested in partnering with LM as a Lead School then please submit your expression of interest by contacting [Beth Carr](#) or [Sarah Share](#)

School Music Development Plans - DfE Guidance Update

Back in May, the DfE released their [guidance and a suggested template](#) for schools to follow in creating and publishing a summary of their School Music Development Plan on their websites. We will continue to discuss these and share examples at our next network meeting on Wednesday 2nd October (book [here](#) for the in-person meeting from 1:00-3:00pm or [here](#) for the online meeting from 3:30-4:30pm) but if you need any specific support please contact [Beth](#) or [Sarah](#). If you would like to book in a **FREE Quality Mark** meeting for this term these can be useful in supporting the development of your Music Plan so do get in touch and we will be happy to help.

CPD and Networking Opportunities

Primary Network Meeting Dates

Thank you to those who attended the Summer network meeting - it was great to see such a good turnout. If you would like to attend the network meeting in October, bookings are already being taken using the links below. We always try to incorporate a CPD element to these meetings alongside discussion time with colleagues to make these relevant and useful. All schools are welcome to attend, even if you already attend a Development Group or MAT meeting for music. The agenda for October can be found with the booking link.

Face to face meeting - **Wednesday 2nd October 1:00-3:00pm**: LRTS Hub

(Christ the King Infants Site - LE3 6DG)

Online meeting - **Wednesday 2nd October 3.30-4.30pm** via Zoom

Dates for our Spring and Summer term networks can be found on our [CPD page](#).

Thanks to the TSAs and Development Groups that have also worked in partnership with us - we are really happy to support these in whatever way we can. If your school is part of a MAT who already meet for their own network meetings, please do get in touch as we are usually available to come along and provide updates from **Leicestershire Music** and support agenda items in any way you would like us to.

EYFS opportunities in partnership with The Spark Arts

Thank you to those who attended any of our three EYFS music network meetings held in partnership with The Spark Arts. Feedback from these new events has been 100% positive and shows a definite demand for more support tailored specifically to this age range. We will announce meeting dates and guest speakers for this year as soon as they have been confirmed.

New Online training sessions - FREE to WCIT schools (£10 pp to Non-WCIT schools)

We are offering 'Understanding Notation' as an online training session on Monday 30th Sept at 3:45-4:45pm - **FREE** to all staff whose school have booked one of our Whole Class instrumental Tuition bookings for this year. This twilight session will cover the expectation around the progression of teaching notation through KS1 to KS2 and the approach to understanding standard notation. A great session for a whole staff meeting, for new staff to your school or anybody unsure of this aspect of music teaching.

We are also pleased to offer 3 more **FREE** (or £10pp for non-WCIT schools) online sessions focusing on common areas of need in schools. Please click on each of these links to find out more: [Building the skills for Creative Composition](#) / [Improve your choir](#) / [Music tech - Using web based music apps](#)

INSET Day or Twilight Opportunities

The DfE document 'Working Lives of teachers and leaders' (Feb 24) found that music continues to be second from bottom as the subject that teachers felt least confident to teach (31% confidence). With this in mind it is ever more important to ensure that time for music CPD is built into the school calendar. We offer a wide range of CPD options, one of which is booking in a session to kick start a new term as part of your INSET day. [Make a booking](#) for January dates here or to enquire about another INSET day date or twilight session of your choice.

New to leading music in your school?

Our 'Becoming an Effective Music Coordinator' course is spread across 3 afternoon sessions during the year. Attendees can join at any point in the cycle as each session focuses on a different aspect of the role. [Click here](#) to find out more and enrol onto the next session on **Wednesday 30th October 2024**

Classroom Support

Leics Play Live

This week our instrumental groups are out and about taking their Orchestral Family, Round the World Percussion and Rock and Pop groups to an assembly near you! If you missed out on this opportunity but would like to be added to a waiting list for proposed sessions in the week beginning 9th December please do get in touch. More information can be found [here](#).

FREE KS1 Recorder Resource (KS2 available for £150)

All primary schools can sign up to our **FREE** KS1 Recorder resource a fully planned and video-led scheme taught over 10 weeks. Not only are the slides and progression documents provided but a set of 32 recorders are dropped off to your school at no cost. Children will be introduced to several key beginner recorder techniques, how to play their first notes and how to read and perform several short recorder pieces. An additional resource is also available for KS2 pupils at a cost of £150 for a year's license. Please sign up for access for 2024/25 using [this link](#).

Red Letter Days Listening Resource

Building on the success of the **FREE** 'Active Listening Resource' which lots of schools have already signed up to, we are launching a brand new listening resource to support celebration and understanding of important calendar dates across the year. These are ideal to use in assembly times or in individual classrooms, enriching other curricular work and experiences. As before they have been developed with our lead practitioner who teach in Leicestershire schools themselves. Special thanks go to Gail Wheatley (The Hall Primary) and Laura Norris (Newlands Primary) for working on these materials. Further resources will be added over time but you can already sign up to access the Autumn term resources using [this link](#). If you haven't already requested access to the [Active Listening resources](#) for the new academic year then please don't forget to do this too!

Beyond the Classroom ...

Teachers' Choir

Did you know we have a Teachers' choir who meet for evening sessions across the year. These sessions are free, informal and fun and are open to any member of school staff. It would be lovely to be joined by more primary colleagues next term so for more information please click [here](#).

Groups and Ensembles outside of school - New groups starting on Saturday mornings!

Don't forget to signpost your students to our after school/weekend groups. We have two brand new beginner groups starting at Beauchamp City Sixth Form College (LE16JL). 'TooT to Flute' and 'Cool DooD' are for pupils aged 7+ looking for a fun new way to progress onto the Flute or Clarinet. Please share the QR codes with interested families.



TooT to Flute



Cool DooD

Social Media

Please give us a follow on [Facebook](#), [Linkedin](#), [Twitter/X](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#) and [Youtube](#)! Any music making you want to share, please tag us and use the hashtag **#leicsmakemusic** and we can share/retweet. We also have a Teachers Facebook group for Leicestershire - you can join [here](#).



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