



**Hello!**

**Autumn Term 2024**

Hello everyone and hope the new term has started well. It was a pleasure to meet and work with you all and your young people last academic year. A big congratulations and hello to those teachers who have moved schools or promoted within your schools, we hope you are settling in. To those teachers who are new to the area, welcome to working in Leicester and **Leicestershire** and we look forward to meeting you soon!

We have lots of exciting things in store this academic year, of which some projects are being booked up very quickly already which is great news. Do have a look at the dates throughout the year so that you can plan your in school performances around them. As always, if you have any questions or queries do not hesitate to drop me an email. Happy reading!

[Michaela](#) - Secondary Schools Team Leader.

## School Music Development Plans (SMDP)

As many of you will have seen, the Department for Education has released guidance to schools that stipulate that schools should publish their SMDP on their website. If you would like more guidance on specifics, Michaela and Sarah can support by visiting your school. There is also a template we have created which has clickable links to what the hub can offer also which can be found [here](#)

## Secondary Schools Survey 24/25

We are currently looking at projects and ways we can support Secondary Schools, particularly with ensembles, including external organisations. In order to ensure we are meeting needs of schools, we have a survey to complete [here](#). Filling out this survey will help us identify which schools need support in which areas to help select schools to take part.

## CPD and Networking Opportunities

**Thursday 23rd January 2025 - Leics Diversify!**

### Music Educators' Conference



Don't forget to book your ticket for this year's conference, which is in January this academic year following feedback from schools. A big thank you to the secondary teachers who supported the creation of the secondary workshop pathway. Information on workshops, workshop leaders and booking information can all be found [here](#).

## 24/25 Network Meeting Dates - Book Now!

### 2024/2025 Network Meetings:

[Autumn Term Face to Face](#) Thurs 7th November 1:00-3:00pm & [Online](#) 3:30-4:30pm,

[Spring Term Face to Face](#) Weds 5th March 1:00-3:00pm & [Online](#) 3:30-4:30pm,

[Summer Term Face to Face](#) Mon 2nd June 1:00-3:00pm and [Online](#) 3:30-4:30pm

All Face to Face Networks will be taking place at Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy, Infants Site Glenfield Road, Leicester. LE3 6DG

If you have any existing networks and would like us to support these (e.g. within your MAT, teaching school network or geographical area), please email [Michaela](#) or [Sarah](#) and we would be happy to attend.

## Exam Board Moderation Networks

Thank you to all teachers who came along to the Eduqas network day on Tuesday 1st October. We had a productive day with Hayley from Eduqas running through the key points from the Examiner's report and also answering questions from teachers on the course and its components. We then had some time to go through some moderation, listening to student compositions and performances and discussing marks given. Special thanks to Lucy Mitcham from John Fernerley College for organising with us. We hope to make this a yearly session. If you wish to be part of the well established network of our local Eduqas Teachers, please email [Michaela](#).

We are hosting more exam boards with subject officers in attendance on the following days, times and venues. Please email [Michaela](#) if you would like to attend.

[OCR GCSE](#) - Tuesday 5th November - 9.30-2.45pm at St Martins Catholic Voluntary Academy, Stoke Gouling.

BTEC Tech Award - Monday 11th November - 9.30-2.45pm at Venue TBC

Edexcel GCSE - Monday 18th November - 9.30-2.45pm at Venue TBC

## Developing Quality Awards, 121 Consultations & Observations

We have recently adapted and developed the Quality Mark, a programme that develops and informs your SMDP, and we are now taking requests to complete this process with schools for the Autumn term. To find out more information and to book, please click [here](#). We are offering 121 consultations via teams / zoom. To request a 121 consultation, please click [here](#). Having piloted supportive lesson observations and feedback with Heads of Music last academic year, we are able to offer these out to all schools. To arrange this, please contact [Michaela](#).

## Resources and Instrument Hire

### Secondary Teacher's Toolkit

This toolkit, on our website, is regularly updated with national guidance and free resources. To request a login to access, please click [here](#).

### Instrument Hire

There is now a simple process to request instrument hire for Secondary Schools. To request a hire of instruments, please click [here](#). If the instrument(s) you require are not listed, please email [Michaela](#) who will be able to assist you.

### Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Resources

We have been working with Royal Birmingham Conservatoire to run the Secondary Schools Ensemble for the past two years and we are now able to release the ensemble resources to all our secondary schools, whether you have been part of the project or not. These are really useful resources for ensembles in schools as they are differentiated to support all levels of playing abilities on a wide range of instruments. We are just sorting some technical issues (as there are over 50 files per ensemble piece and 6 pieces!) to make them easier to download off the website, but these will be launched before the end of this half term (October).

# Singing Updates

## Emily Barden - KS3 Singing Workshop - 3rd December 2024

This project is now nearly fully booked – thank you to all of those schools who are already signed up. The project includes repertoire and warm-ups chosen to engage and encourage KS3 singing, with some songs will be learnt in advance and others taught on the day and an opportunity for the secondary schools to perform to KS2 children at the end of the workshop.  
10:30am – 2:00pm – £60 per school

To book one of the final places please click [here](#).

## Secondary Massed Choir - Choral Spectacular – 17th March 2025 – De Montfort Hall

A celebration of all things singing with massed primary, secondary and SEND choirs. This year our focus will be on Barbershop and Modern Acapella – led by our very own Simon Lubkowski who is a gold medal barbershop singer, coach and judge and other international barbershop coaches – an opportunity to dip into this exciting musical genre as well as modern acapella singing. This will include repertoire creation and online resources, 2 x in school rehearsals, a massed rehearsal and performance at De Montfort Hall

£75 per school

To book please click [here](#).

## Secondary Massed Choir – Gabrieli Roar (more information to follow) – 25th June 2025 – De Montfort Hall

This event will include Repertoire creation and access to online resources, CPD for teachers, In school rehearsals delivered by **Leicestershire Music** singing leaders and the Gabrieli Consort, a full day singing workshop, a massed rehearsal led by **Leicestershire Music** and a performance accompanied by an orchestra.

£100 per school

To book please click [here](#).

## Consultations

If you would like specific support with a singing strategy within your school, resources or bespoke projects, please contact [Simon](#) (our specialist Secondary Singing Leader).

## FREE Singing Toolkit

On our website, we have now added a variety of free singing resources specifically for secondary schools. Each of these have the backing track, individual part tracks and full track with some sheet music/lyrics as well. To access these free resources, please click [here](#).

## Teacher's Choir

The teacher's choir is back again this academic year. We will be taking part in a series of performances, events and CPD this year, including a collaboration with the National Teachers' Choir. To see rehearsal dates and to sign up for updates, please click [here](#).



# Music Technology Updates

## Music Tech Projects

The latest Music Technology Units developed by **Leicestershire Music** are designed to ignite creativity, offer cutting-edge technology and enhance your Secondary music curriculum. All of the units include 10 fully planned and video-led lessons, downloadable resources, equipment hire for the term, and a day's CPD for your staff. Here's what's on offer:

- Secondary Turntablism Unit: Dive into the art of turntablism with robust, interactive resources that guide students through scratching techniques such as the baby, release, chop and drop scratches.
- iPad Garageband Unit: Explore digital music creation using Garageband on iPads, featuring engaging tutorials and practical exercises using the dynamic 'Live Looping' feature. Here students can experiment with layering sounds and creating their own compositions in real-time.
- Beatboxing, Singing, and Looping Unit: Our newest addition comes with a fresh promo video showcasing the exciting possibilities of beatboxing, singing, and looping. [Click here to see it in action](#) – or [click here to see videos of all of our units!](#)

Each unit is crafted to provide a comprehensive, hands-on learning experience, making it easier for you to bring cutting-edge music technology into your classroom. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your students' musical journey with innovative and engaging content. For further details, or to express an interest, please contact [Tim Clay](#).

## FREE DAW Course

**Leicestershire Music**, University of Hull and TiME have created a FREE DAW course and a set of substantial resources to use with your students using cubase, which is available until December 31st 2024. Free copies of cubase are available to support the delivery of the course. To see more information and to access these resources, please click [here](#)

## Other Updates

### Groups and Ensembles

Don't forget to signpost your students to our after school/weekend groups - we have a group finder which filters by instrument and ability on our website for you to view [here](#).

### Invite us to your performances!

Michaela and Sarah would love to attend more performances, concerts shows and any other music making activities in your school - Please email us any dates for the diary and we will do our best to come and support you.

### 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 private Teachers Facebook group for Leicestershire - you can join [here](#).