



# THE MUSIC PARTNERSHIP

Newsletter - Autumn 2024

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

## Staffordshire Young Musicians

Meet the winners of the the 2024 Staffordshire Young Musicians event.



### Shropshire Music Service

Discover some of the exciting music projects happening within Shropshire Music Service.



### Young Sounds UK

Young people take part in the Fuse Festival in Lichfield - a vibrant music and arts festival showcasing a range of musical talent.

### Celebrating Inclusion

Inclusion remains high on the hub's agenda as we start a new academic year with plenty of new directions to explore and challenges to address.

### Recorder Festival

Your invitation to take part in 2025's Recorder Festival plus lots of other events and CPD opportunities.

### The Big Sing

The 'Big Sing', which is an annual event, returned even bigger and better than before, and, due to popular demand, this year the event was hosted over two days.

Supported using public funding by



# Welcome to the autumn term 2024 edition of The Music Partnership's newsletter

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to our Newsletter! This is the first edition for 2024-25 and also for The Music Partnership (TMP) in this new funding period where we are the Music Hub for the local authority areas of Shropshire, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent and Telford & Wrekin.

We are hugely excited to have this new partnership in place, involving our four music services and around forty partner organisations. There are more than 700 settings in this region with well over 200,000 pupils in the school population. TMP partners aim to work together to ensure that all children and young people have the opportunity to learn to sing, to play an instrument and to perform together in music groups, choirs, and ensembles.

We have set out our Programme of Activity for 2024-25 and this can be summarised across three key areas: "Delivery, Support and Performances". Activity by our partner organisations will be based across these areas to respond to the aims and functions set out in the [Power of Music to Change Lives, A National Plan for Music Education](#). You can read more about our partnership activities and keep updated with CPD, events, and opportunities by visiting our website [www.themusicpartnership.org.uk](http://www.themusicpartnership.org.uk)

With a region this size, we simply can't meet our ambitious aims without schools. You may remember from previous editions that we have asked schools to help in a number of areas before, particularly with our aims to support musical inclusion and also so we can best target support for school improvement. It is worth repeating some of these points again here:

1. Please help us to improve Musical Inclusion across the region. Visiting teachers often 'don't know what they don't know' so please highlight any children with additional needs to your visiting staff and contact your local music service if you have pupils that could miss out on music provision without bespoke intervention.

2. The Music Partnership has a ten-point 'Progression Strategy', designed to help children make musical progress to high levels of attainment. You can help by considering the pathways and options that children have in your school to make music long term. For example, is your whole class programme giving a good start for children but with no option to then take this further? Does your provision relate to transition - what has come before or will come after for your pupils? Are all children able to access lessons or just those who can afford to?

3. School Music Development Plans. The DfE have asked all schools to have a SMDP in place by September. If you haven't considered this yet then please get in touch, book a Music Audit discussion and look at our SMDP template on the website. A successful SMDP reflects on the success of the current offer in school and then sets out achievable steps to improve provision.

4. If you do nothing else, then please look at page eighteen in the new National Plan. It shows a simple diagram that asks schools to consider the health and quality of three parts of music in school: the curriculum, instrumental & vocal work, and musical events and opportunities. This is the best place to start when considering your Music Development Plan and how partners can help support you.

This year we will continue to send a fortnightly email to all schools, which summarises the latest developments in music education and the upcoming opportunities across our region. Please lookout for this email, it will come from your local music service, or you can sign up to receive communications directly, via the website [Contact Us - The Music Partnership](#).

Best wishes from all of us across The Music Partnership for a successful year of music in school. As always, please don't hesitate to get in contact for any advice, guidance or support.



**John Callister**

**Head of Service**

Entrust Music Service Staffordshire

on behalf of The Music Partnership

Email: [john.callister@entrust-ed.co.uk](mailto:john.callister@entrust-ed.co.uk)

# Events, workshops and CPD opportunities

To view all of our upcoming events please visit:  
[www.themusicpartnership.org.uk/events](http://www.themusicpartnership.org.uk/events)

Remember to join the mailing list for up to date event information [www.themusicpartnership.org.uk](http://www.themusicpartnership.org.uk)



City **MUSIC** Service  
STOKE - ON - TRENT

telford&wrekin  
**MUSIC**

**SMS**  
SHROPSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE  
Teaching Music - Changing Lives

## Help us to improve musical inclusion

The Music Partnership works across Shropshire, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, Telford and Wrekin.

- ✓ Help us to find and work with school children that could benefit from music education but whose circumstances mean they might miss out.
- ✓ Help our visiting practitioners adapt lessons to achieve the best outcomes by sharing information (eg SEND details).
- ✓ Get in touch with your local music service if you're unsure how to support a child's musical needs.



Contact us to find out more [www.themusicpartnership.org.uk](http://www.themusicpartnership.org.uk)



## The Music Partnership

**The Music Partnership is a group of the region's leading music education providers, committed to working together to ensure all young people have the opportunity to sing, learn an instrument and perform as part of an ensemble or choir.**

We receive funding from the Department of Education via Arts Council England to deliver the 'National Plan for Music Education'. We also depend on the continued financial contribution, and investment of time, made by our education partners, including schools, parents, pupils and charitable supporters. We cover the local authority areas of Shropshire, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent and Telford & Wrekin and work with the three music services in these regions alongside around thirty other music partners.

**Our Music Services are:** Shropshire Music Service, Entrust Music Service Staffordshire, The City Music Service Stoke-on-Trent and Telford & Wrekin Music.

By working collaboratively and pooling our resources we are able to stage large scale events throughout the year giving students the chance to perform with world-class musicians, orchestras, and ensembles. We deliver quality CPD opportunities, conferences and create resources that are available for teachers to enhance the delivery of their work.

**There are a number of ways we can work to bring music and singing into education settings:**

### Teaching, resources, support, CPD and training:

- Funded and part-funded Teaching and Wider School Projects
- Subsidised Whole Class Ensemble Teaching (WCET)
- Subsidised 'Progression' Teaching
- Fully funded School Transition and Open Evening support
- Part-funded 'In Harmony' Programme
- Fully funded Music Share Workshops and Concerts
- Subsidised Charanga licenses (online music resource to support teaching and learning)
- Subsidised Sparkyard Subscription
- Funded lessons for Children in Care (CiC) via partnership with local Virtual Schools
- Bursary support for individual families (upon application) please [contact us](#) for more information
- Bursary support for children from low income families with identified musical talent - Young Sounds Connect - [youngsounds.org.uk](http://youngsounds.org.uk)

### Concerts and events:

- A huge range of local events throughout the year:
- Annual Recorder Festival
- MusicShare Concerts
- Christmas and Summer Livestream massed events.
- Festival of Christmas
- WCET Celebration

### CPD, support and resources:

- Musical Progression Maps (Key Stages 1-5)
- Assessing Musical Progress Framework (Instrumental and Vocal work)
- What a Good One Looks Like (WAGOLL) guides for senior leaders
- Music Network sessions
- A Music and SEND network
- A programme of annual Musical Training
- Fully funded support visits for Music Leads
- Fully funded Music Audits and the opportunity to access Excellence in Music Provision Awards
- Subsidised Early Years 'Soundpots' Music Conference
- Fully-funded membership of Music Mark – The National Association for Music Education (following audit).

# Ensembles

Do you play an instrument or sing at school and want to join an established group to further develop your playing? Do you want to learn to play an instrument or sing?

## Staffordshire

Our Music Centres run on weekdays or Saturday mornings at venues across Staffordshire: Burton, Cannock, Lichfield, Moorlands, Newcastle, Stafford, and Tamworth. We also run a group 'Blast Off' which runs online every Tuesday for all beginner instrumentalists. All ages are welcome, from KS1 to adult helpers. We have something for everyone, from fun beginner groups to advanced ensembles, covering all styles and levels of experience. Our Music Centres are all **FREE** of charge to musicians living or studying in Staffordshire. Want to try out a new instrument? We can provide a free-of-charge instrument for all members (subject to availability).

### Registration

To register for our Music Centre groups, please scan the QR code or click [here](#). Alternatively, please email us on [musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk](mailto:musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk) visit our website: [www.entrustmusic.co.uk](http://www.entrustmusic.co.uk) for details of times, or call 0333 300 1900.



## Stoke-on-Trent

Get expert tuition and friendly support at our Music Centre in Stoke-on-Trent.

- Monday - Choir
- Tuesday - Strings and Recorders
- Wednesday - Wind and Brass
- Thursday - Rock and Pop / Contemporary

Our Music Centres run on weekdays Monday to Thursday from 5.45-7.15pm at The Bridge Centre in Birches Head. All ages are welcome. We have something for everyone, from fun beginner groups to advanced ensembles, covering all styles and levels of experience.

### Registration

Our Music Centres are all FREE of charge to musicians living or studying in Stoke-on-Trent. To register for our Music Centre groups email [citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk) or call 01782 233796.

## Shropshire

Our ensemble provision runs every week at various locations across the county: Shrewsbury, Wem, Ludlow, Cleobury Mortimer, and Bridgnorth. Our Riffs rock and pop ensemble runs on the first Saturday of every month at our centre in Shrewsbury. Our beginners group, Stompers is suitable for instrumentalists who can confidently play three or more notes. All ages are welcome and all our ensembles are completely free of charge!

### Stompers

Beginner ensembles open to all instruments: participants need to play three notes confidently.

- Shrewsbury Stompers: Monday: 4.30-5.30pm, Music Centre SY3 0NU
  - Ludlow Stompers Tuesday: 4-5pm, SY8 1TP
  - Cleobury Mortimer Stompers: Tuesday: 4.15-5.15pm, DY14 8PE
  - Wem Stompers Wednesday: 4.45-5.45pm, SY4 5UB
  - Bridgnorth Stompers Thursday: 4-5pm, WV16 4ER
- 
- Youth Orchestra: Monday 6-7.30pm, Music Centre SY3 0NU (Grade 3+)
  - World Folk Ensemble: Wednesday, 6-7.30pm, Music Centre SY3 0NU (Grade 3+)
  - Youth Choir: Monday, 4.30-5.30pm, SY1 4QN
  - Riffs – Rock and Pop: First Saturday of every month, 10am-1pm, Music Centre SY3 0NU

### Registration

Find out more and sign-up visit [shropshiremusicservice.org.uk/ensembles](http://shropshiremusicservice.org.uk/ensembles) or call 01743 874145.

## Telford & Wrekin

### Rock / Pop

Our Rock Clubs run weekly during term time at a number of our secondary schools . They are free and open to all.

- Charlton School - Tuesdays 4-6pm
- Telford Park School – Tuesdays 4-6pm
- Erccall wood school (NEW) – Wednesdays 3:15-4:15

### Our Orchestral Ensembles are as follows:

#### Telford In Harmony Youth Orchestra

**Thursdays, 3.30-5.30pm, Old Park Primary School, Malinslee**

Telford In Harmony Youth Orchestra (TIHYO) is open to any young musician from Years 4-13 who plays a standard orchestral instrument. The orchestra plays a range of different musical styles and genres in a supportive and friendly environment and is free of charge.

#### Telford In Harmony Youth Ensemble

**Thursdays, 5.30pm – 6.30pm, Old Park Primary School, Malinslee**

In Harmony Youth Ensemble runs on a Thursday evening in Telford from 5.30 - 6.30pm and is for anyone from Years 6 – 13 playing at Grade 2 standard or above on a standard orchestral instrument. Youth Ensemble members need to be able to read music to a reasonable level. TIHYE is free of charge.

### Registration

For more information on any of the above contact us at [Telford.music@telford.gov.uk](mailto:Telford.music@telford.gov.uk) or phone 01952 380981.



## Celebrating Inclusion

Caroline Dingle  
Inclusion Lead, The Music Partnership

**Inclusion remains high on the hub's agenda as we start a new academic year with plenty of new directions to explore and challenges to address.**

In the last couple of months of the summer term we celebrated and enjoyed performances by our pupils, especially those who face barriers to their learning. Whole primary school classes took part in many WCET (Whole Class Ensemble Tuition) concerts across the hub, in Stoke City Songbirds schools showcased the skills of whole classes of young singers in two concerts, and the In Harmony programme produced two concerts for children from all four of their schools in Telford and Stoke.

I completed an inclusion training course with Music Mark last term. Titled Emerge to Thrive the course was for inclusion leads across the country and comprised twelve hours of online masterclasses and workshops. The learning embraced my inner game: leadership style, behaviours, values, mindset, story, strengths, areas for development, as well as my outer game within our organisations: systems, structure, values, culture, processes, practice, policies, behaviours. I found the course engaging, informative, emotional, challenging and above all else extremely beneficial to my role moving forwards.

Training is underway for a cohort of practitioners across Stoke, Staffordshire and Telford who have put themselves forward to complete a Post Graduate Certificate in Sounds of Intent. Sounds of Intent is a model of musical development that sets out how we all engage with music, from children in the early years to older people with dementia, from those with profound learning difficulties who are still learning to process sound, to others who are regarded as advanced musicians in their culture. We look forward to seeing the impact of this up-skilled team, particularly in special schools. Our hub has welcomed our new partner, Shropshire Music Service, and I'm pleased to report that they are now fully involved in our inclusion conversations and activities. As the number of Children In Care accessing funded music tuition across the hub continues to rise, we are planning a series of special musical events for them this term. INSET training at the start of term for practitioners across the hub had a significant amount of inclusion content too as we continue to train our teachers in meeting the needs of all our young learners.

Finally, the ever-expanding AYM programme (which supports talented young people from low-income families to overcome financial and social barriers) is now called Young Sounds UK and Entrust Music Staffordshire's charity FOSYM (which provides financial support to enable children to receive vocal and instrumental lessons and be part of ensembles) has been re-named The Staffordshire Young Musician's Trust. Numbers of young musicians accessing both sources of support continues to increase.

## Samba Drumming Workshops for Schools with ART BRASIL

Our fun and accessible drumming workshops provide an energetic and engaging cross-curricular experience for all year groups, supporting pupils to develop musical, physical, social and team work skills. We deliver workshops in Samba Drumming, Hand Drumming & Body Drumming, as well as Boomwhackers - with half and full school days to suit your timetable and budget.

### Why choose ART BRASIL?

We are your local, not-for-profit specialists with over 15 years of experience delivering high quality workshops across Staffordshire and beyond.

For more information email Mika: [info@artbrasil.org.uk](mailto:info@artbrasil.org.uk)



# Telford & Wrekin News



Last year saw many new events and opportunities for the young people of Telford & Wrekin. For example an expanded recorder festival saw over 300 children come together to rehearse and perform as part of the wider TMP event.

600 Children from primary, secondary and special schools took part in Telford Sings, with a further expansion planned for this year. The first ever Telford Young Musician competition took place, with the finalists being invited to play to a huge audience at Telford Balloon Fiesta. These events promise to be even bigger this year. Look out for more information in the coming weeks!



## Stealing the show

Paige is a student at Southall SEN school in Telford and took part in the Telford Young Musician Final. She loves music and uses it to express her emotions. She is self-taught on piano and vocals and loves creating her own composition. She is able harmonise and play music by ear within minutes of listening to it. She also likes doing parodies of famous songs to fit her own interests, being weather and marvel films. Paige has many hurdles to overcome she is 14 years old but has Cortical visual impairment and send- profound global developmental. Her lack of inhabitation and strong will, is her superpower (she often wears a cape) and makes her want to share her music talent with the world!

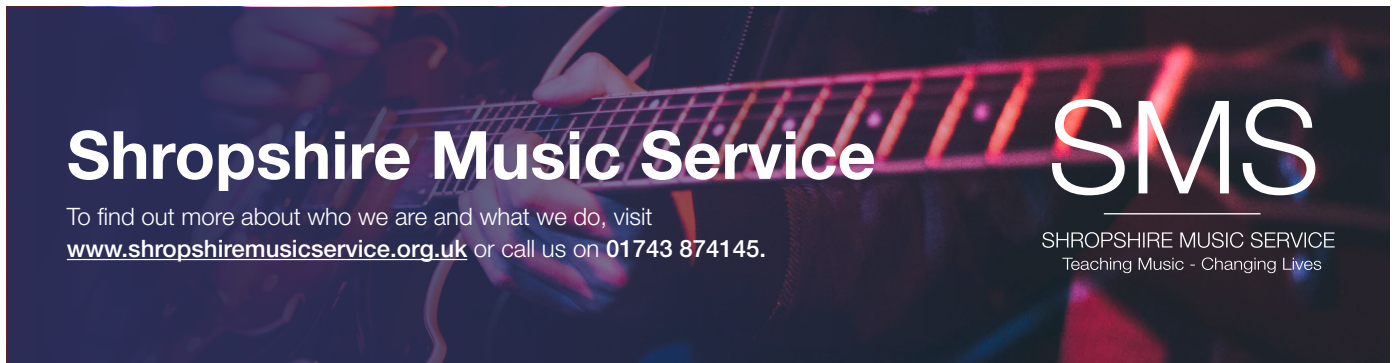
## Exam result congratulations!

A huge well done to the following pupils...

- Anna for passing her Grade 1 Cello
- Harriet for passing her Grade 6 Cello
- Connie from Redhill for passing her Grade 3 acoustic guitar exam.
- Finn at Tibberton for passing his Grade 3 drum exam! Finn is already moving onto his next grade with much enthusiasm!
- William from Lilleshall for passing his debut electric guitar exam.







**Shropshire Music Service is committed to providing, developing, and supporting high-quality music education throughout the county of Shropshire. We work in partnership with schools, parents, carers, and our community to ensure every child and young person can access and progress in music-making.**

We offer a range of services in schools including whole class instrumental tuition, curriculum delivery, individual and small group instrumental tuition, a range of workshops, Live Music Week, discovery demos, and CPD. In 2023-24 we worked in partnership with 98% of schools in Shropshire to help them fulfil the ambitions of their music development plans. Our services in schools are supported by our fully subsidised ensembles, delivered at multiple locations around the county and designed to support learning and progression from beginners to advanced students.

## Change Tracks

**During May half term, aspiring young recording artists between the ages of 11 and 18 were given the opportunity to produce a professional quality original recording as part of Shropshire Music Service's 'Change Tracks' project; a four day songwriting and production workshop sponsored by Youth Music.**

The project began at the SMS Centre in Bayston Hill, where attendees received workshops on songwriting, sampling and lyrics. Within less than two days, the students had formed six bands and had written a complete song ready to be recorded. The bands covered an eclectic range of musical genres, including pop, folk, hard rock, punk and indie. Their songwriting sessions concluded with a masterclass from Brit award winning musician and producer Kris Halpin. As well as giving each individual band invaluable tips to refine their final song, Kris delivered a session on the importance of recording studio etiquette and efficiency.

The final two days of the workshop saw the bands travel to Telford College's industry standard recording studios. Creative intelligence and the ability to work as a team under time constraints were demonstrated by all involved, and the workshop concluded with each band producing a fully mixed and mastered track ready for Spotify or radio!

Feedback from the project has been outstanding with participants commenting that they loved every minute of it. One parent commented, 'massive thanks to everyone for putting on this amazing workshop. It gave useful insights into the recording industry and really fired enthusiasm for an industry so important to the UK.'



**YOUTH  
MUSIC**

## Shropshire Sings

June 2024 saw the return of Shropshire Music Service's 'Shropshire Sings'. The long-running bi annual event, consisting of three outdoor concerts at the West Midlands Showground, featured pupils from 44 county schools singing together as one unified choir.

With live musical accompaniment from SMS tutors (Sarah Browne on piano, Karen Kirkland on woodwinds, Andrew Jones on guitar, Simon Tomkins on bass and Jerome Auxant on drums), concertgoers were treated to a diverse set of songs spanning the eras - including classics by Nina Simone, Pharrell Williams, Fleetwood Mac and Queen. A lively musical theatre section provided many memorable moments, most notably an exuberant rendition of Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Mr Mistoffelees'!

By now something of an institution within the county, 'Shropshire Sings 2024' once again provided testament to the unifying and uplifting power of music, and singing in particular, for children of all ages and backgrounds. Many proud parents could be seen in the audiences, and the British weather triumphantly defied the odds with sunshine over the three days!

Teachers from participating schools shared their thanks for a 'lovely event' with a 'wonderfully varied programme of songs' with a 'brilliant live band'. One remarked: 'it was a great evening's entertainment for family and friends and a memorable experience for the children – one that they will cherish.'



# Sympho

Shropshire Young Musicians Parent Helpers Organisation (SYMPHO)

**SYMPHO is a vital part of the success of the Music Service. SYMPHO is a charitable organisation and provides essential fundraising and practical support at public events, including front of house duties, refreshments, and raffles.**

Funds raised by Sympho are used to support the work of the Music Service, particularly the hardship fund. In 2023-24, their fundraising work put instruments into the hands of over 500 children, funding 11 Discovery Demos across the county, supported a brand-new ensemble (Riffs) and facilitated a year 7 taster day for over 200 children.

Contact [admin@shropshiremusicservice.org.uk](mailto:admin@shropshiremusicservice.org.uk) to discuss how to get involved with Sympho.

Registered charity number 508977



# Stoke-on-Trent City Music Service News



## Stoke-on-Trent Young Musician 2025

### Dates:

- Application deadline: Fri 29 Nov 2024.
- Preliminary rounds, The Bridge Centre: Mon 27, Tues 28 and Weds 29 Jan 2025.
- Final: Fri 28 March 2025.

### Eligibility:

You should meet at least one of the following categories:

- You are a resident of Stoke-on-Trent
- You are in full time education within the City boundaries
- You are a member of one of the City Music Service ensembles

### Age Categories:

- Junior – up to and including Year 8 in the 2024/25 academic year
- Senior – Year 9 to Year 13 in the 2024/25 academic

### Preliminary rounds for junior and senior include:

- Strings (orchestral)
- Woodwind (orchestral and band)
- Brass (orchestral and band)
- Piano
- Voice
- Open (percussion, keyboard, guitar, recorder etc)

## Entries

Complete the online entry form [Young Musician Application Form 2025](#) or click the QR code and email a clear copy of your music and any accompaniment or MP3 backing track to [citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk)



## Big Sing and Big Play

Save the dates: 4, 9, 10 & 11 June 2025

The year 2025 marks 100 years since Stoke-on-Trent was granted city status by His Majesty King George V in 1925. Stoke-on-Trent first obtained city status on 5 June 1925, following a direct approach to King George V, to recognise the city's considerable contributions to the pottery industry.

The City Council will be encouraging businesses and the community and voluntary sector to come together in a year-long programme to celebrate the rich heritage of the city and tell the story of how Stoke-on-Trent became a city. City Music Service will be organising concerts and events for schools in the City as part of these celebrations.



# CPD Opportunities

## Introduction to Charanga Musical School - FREE TO ATTEND

30 Sept 2024, 16:15-17:45, Our Lady and St Benedict Catholic Academy, Abbey Lane, Abbey Hulton, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8AU.

Used by specialist music teachers and non-specialists alike, Musical School provides week-by-week lessons for all primary year groups, with clear progression and assessment, and exciting whiteboard resources for every lesson. Teachers in 65% of UK primary schools use Musical School to teach music. To find out why, this workshop introduces you to the interactive resources and curricula our award-winning programme provides.

To book your place please click [here](#).

## Soundpots Music Network - FREE TO ATTEND

22 Oct 2024 and 21 May 2025, The Bridge Centre, Stoke-on-Trent or via Teams.

To book please email: [citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk)

## Soundpots Early Years Music Conference

4th April 2025, The Bridge Centre, Birches Head, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD.

- Practical skill-sharing workshops with experienced Early Years Music Practitioners
- Networking opportunities
- Discussions around the links between music-making, communication and wellbeing

Guest Speaker- Rosie Rushton, Specialist Lecturer at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham. In 2024 Rosie was awarded honorary membership of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire for her significant contributions to the field of music, disability and education.



To book or for more information contact [citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:citymusicservice@stoke.gov.uk) or scan the QR code.





# Recorder Festival 2025

## Invitation to take part

### The Anstice, Madeley, Telford

Wednesday 12th February and Friday 14th February 2025, 12:30pm

### The Victoria Hall, Hanley

Tuesday 18th March and Wednesday 19th March 2025, 12:30pm

### The Coton Centre, Tamworth

Tuesday 1st April and Thursday 3rd April, 12:30pm

#### Timetable:

- 10.00am-11.30am - All schools rehearse massed items
- 11.30am-12.15pm - Lunch break
- 12.30pm-1.30pm (approx.) - Lunchtime concert

#### Organisation:

- Teachers' Meeting Thurs 14 Nov 4.15-5.15pm on Microsoft Teams. At least one teacher from each school should attend with their recorder and music.
- One set of repertoire for the massed items will be provided. There will be parts suitable for all levels of players.
- There is an opportunity for your school to perform individually (maximum time limit of four minutes).
- Participation fee of £100 will be charged to cover the costs of the festival.

#### Bookings

Applications must be received by Fri 18 Oct 2024. Please complete the online form [Recorder Festival Application Form 2025](#) or scan the QR code.



# MusicShare offer

## Academic Year 2024-2025



**MusicShare is a Singing Schools Programme which is a partnership between Lichfield Cathedral School & Lichfield Cathedral, with significant funding from Arts Council England via The Music Partnership.**

Our exciting singing projects for schools are now available and include:

- Four/five one-hour in-school rehearsals leading up to the concert (usually within the same term as the concert) from a MusicShare animateur
- All the songs will be taught in these sessions.
- Provision of all the songs and backing tracks, in a broad range of styles.
- A concert, in Lichfield Cathedral, accompanied by the MusicShare live professional band.

For those schools with a Music Service Level Agreement (SLA) with either Entrust or City Music Service, the in-school sessions are fully funded for 1 project (schools can apply for further projects but they will be charged £500 for each further project). The only cost to schools is to organize their own transport to the final concert, to which parents are invited, free of charge. For those without a Music Service Level agreement with either Entrust or City Music, the charge for each project/concert is £500, payable to MusicShare, plus the cost of organizing their own transport to the final concert. There are limited spaces available for each project/concert so apply soon to reserve your place and to coordinate your rehearsal visits.

## Event Information - Lichfield Cathedral

All events at Lichfield Cathedral are in this format: Each school may bring up to 50 pupils.

2.30pm	Arrival and seating
3pm	Rehearsal
4.30pm	Break (bring own supper)
5.30pm	Attend Choral Evensong service in the Cathedral sung by the Choristers
6pm	Break – all groups will be accommodated within the Cathedral Close during this period
7.00-8.00pm	Concert (free attendance for parents)

### Concert Dates at Lichfield Cathedral:

Date	Venue	Other information
Tuesday 12th November 2024	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert for year groups 3 to 6 in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
Wednesday 13th November 2024	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert for year groups 3 to 6 in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
Tuesday 18th March 2025	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert aimed at SEND schools, of any age from Year 3 to secondary, in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
Thursday 20th March 2025	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert aimed at Secondary schools, of any age from Year 7, in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
Tuesday 24th June 2025	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert for year groups 3 to 6 in Staffordshire
Wednesday 25th June 2025	Lichfield Cathedral	Concert for year groups 3 to 6 in Staffordshire

To book please email: [c.lamb@lichfieldcathedralschool.com](mailto:c.lamb@lichfieldcathedralschool.com) providing the following information:

- Name of school
- Full address of school
- Name of main contact
- Email of main contact

Number of pupils and staff for the below events required:

- Tuesday 12th November 2024 (Years 3-6)
- Wednesday 13th November 2024 (Years 3-6)
- Tuesday 18th March 2025 (SEND Years 3-secondary)
- Thursday 20th March 2025 (Secondary)
- Tuesday 24th June 2025 (Years 3-6)
- Wednesday 25th June 2025 (Years 3-6)

### Please note, all concerts are at the following times:

2.30pm Arrival and seating, 3pm Rehearsal, 4.30pm Break (bring own supper), 5.30pm Attend Choral Evensong service in the Cathedral sung by the Choristers, 6pm Break (all groups will be accommodated within the Cathedral Close during this period), 7.00 – 8.00pm Concert (free attendance for parents).

Read on for information about our free website and resources.



# The Big Sing

## Moreton Hall hosted over 320 local school children from across Shropshire and the Welsh Marches for their Big Sing Event.

The 'Big Sing', which is an annual event, returned even bigger and better than before, and, due to popular demand, this year the event was hosted over two days. The 'Big Sing' initiative, developed by North Shropshire Music hub under the expert guidance and direction of Moreton Hall's Music department, encourages young children to explore the joys of making music and in the case of the 'Big Sing' initiative, generates a love and enjoyment for the art of choral singing. Pupils from thirteen different schools from North Shropshire and Welsh Marches got the chance to experience singing in a large group regardless of the size of their school.

The event was expertly led by one of Britain's most successful and ambitious choral conductors, Aled Phillips, Founder, Conductor and Artistic Director of Johns' Boys, a local Male Voice Chorus who reached the semi-finalists in last year's Britain's Got Talent. He was joined by Moreton Hall's own Ellie Diack. Ellie is not only known for her work with Moreton but also through her work with Face2Face Performing Arts Academy which provides pupils between the ages of 9 and 18 expert teaching in dancing, singing and acting. Ellie was also a finalist for Vocal Teacher of the Year in the prestigious national Music and Drama Awards 2024.

Across the day the children were split up into groups learning singing technique and new songs in a fun and engaging way. The day culminated in a performance to their family and friends.

Amy Lott, Director of Music at Moreton Hall, said: "The Big Sing was yet another incredible event. It was so great to see so many children from different schools engaging with both Aled and Ellie. Singing, and music in general, boosts not only our mood, but also our wellbeing. Over the past two days, The Holroyd Community Theatre has been filled with so much joy and enthusiasm, it was wonderful to see and be a part of."

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Aled Phillips said: *"What an amazing two days! It was a privilege to be a part of such a wonderful project. The children were incredible and the event was impeccably organised and executed by the Moreton's Music department."*

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Helen Rayner, Music Outreach Coordinator at Moreton Hall, said: "Bringing children together through the art of choral singing has been a hugely rewarding experience for all our tutors over the last few days. The engagement and level of commitment displayed by the youngsters has been second to none. We very much hope to build on the partnerships we have formed with our local schools and cement them in more music projects and initiatives in the future and continue to work alongside nationally and internationally renowned music groups such as Johns' Boys Chorus."

Anthea Renshaw, a parent from Coleham Primary School, said: "Having been on the hunt for choral workshops in Shropshire for my daughters to take part in, I came across The Big Sing at Moreton Hall. Helen Rayner was brilliantly forthcoming at involving our local primary school, and we feel so privileged to have been part of this wonderful event. The performance at the end of the workshop was brimming with enthusiasm from all the children involved, and spoke volumes as to the fun they had had and the quality of music that had been shared during the day."

Moreton Hall will be hosting a Junior Choral Masterclass on Friday 27th September. The day will offer unique opportunities to children aged 8-14 who have a genuine interest in choral singing. For more information, or to register for this event, please contact, Helen Rayner on [raynerh@moretonhall.com](mailto:raynerh@moretonhall.com)





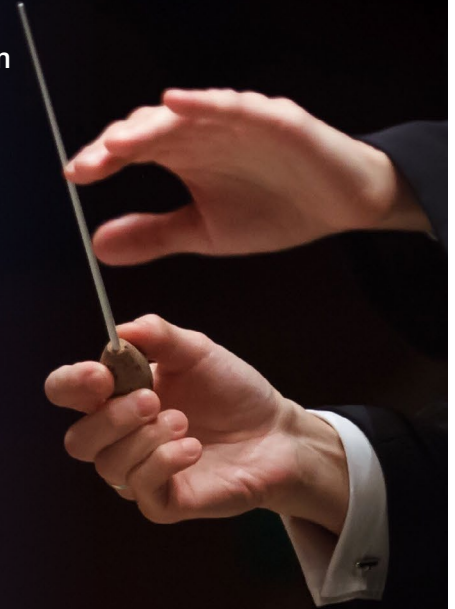
# Music Education Solutions

Curriculum Music Conference Central - 22 Jan 2025, 9.30am-4pm  
Mercure Telford Central.

Following last year's successful conference hosted at Riverway in Stafford, The Music Partnership is delighted to be partnering with Music Education Solutions<sup>®</sup> once again to host the Curriculum Music Conference CENTRAL in 2025. This time around we will be holding the event in Telford.

Once again the day will feature a range of presentations, workshops and discussion sessions to inspire EYFS, primary, and secondary music teachers, as well as a comprehensive exhibition where you can view the latest teaching resources and publications. A discounted rate is available for all schools in Shropshire, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent and Telford, but this must be booked by the end of the Autumn Term.

[To book click here](#)



## Tune Up your Teaching

with Music Education Solutions<sup>®</sup>

This academic year, Music Education Solutions is offering a varied programme of CPD webinars and certificates that will help to develop your teaching and subject leadership skills. Whether you're looking for help with creating a music development plan, wanting to understand how to develop core musical skills across a primary school, or looking for subject leadership training, we have an option that will suit you! To find out more about our webinars and subject leadership certificates visit <https://musiceducationsolutions.co.uk/ourwebinars/>

For those teachers who find it difficult to get release time to attend CPD, Music Education Solutions also offers a programme of online self-guided courses that you can complete in your own time. Each course includes a range of video, audio, and text-based resources, and interactive elements. You can find a course to suit you here: <https://musiceducationsolutions.co.uk/ourcourses/>

### Level 4 Certificate in Music

If, on the other hand, you're ready to really lean in to your professional development this year, perhaps you might consider registering for the Level 4 Certificate for Music Educators. This flexible, online distance-learning programme is open to music educators working in any context, regardless of previous qualifications or experience, and can be completed over the course of 1-2 years. On completion you will receive a qualification is the equivalent to the first year of an undergraduate degree, and be entitled to use the post-nominals CMETCL. Find out more here: <https://musiceducationsolutions.co.uk/level-4-certificate-for-music-educators/>

- Creating a Music Development Plan- 25 Sept 20224, 3.45pm-5.15pm
- Developing Core Skills in Primary Music - 18 Oct 2024, 9.30am-2.30pm
- Secondary Music Leadership Certificate -1 Oct, 5 Nov & 3 Dec 2024, 1pm-4pm (all three dates must be attended)
- Primary Music Leadership Certificate - 2 Oct, 6 Nov & 4 Dec 2024, 1pm-3.30pm (all three dates must be attended)

# In Harmony Telford and Stoke-on-Trent

This summer the In Harmony Telford and Stoke-on-Trent programme has seen a number of exciting opportunities for the children and young people involved.

Transition event with Royal Birmingham Conservatoire  
At the end of June, all four In Harmony schools sent their Year 5 and 6 children to Victoria Hall in Stoke for a joint transition project with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire LEAP Ensemble. The LEAP Ensemble performed some exciting pop repertoire before having an interactive session where all the children played their instruments alongside the ensemble in an exhilarating performance!

## Community Performances

Recent community performances include children from St Augustine's Catholic Academy performing twice to the 'Young At Heart' club in Meir; a chamber ensemble of In Harmony children taking part in the Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council Fun Day event; children from St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy performing at a Feast Day event; and In Harmony musicians aged 8 – 18 performing in their own community concert at Dawley Town Hall in Telford.

## Creative Opera Performances

In July, 430 children from Old Park Primary School performed in the culmination of their creative opera project. Over the past few months the children had devised, composed and rehearsed 5 mini-operas, supported by professional opera singers and a composer. With the brief being set as 'a modern-day fairy-tale set in Malinslee' the project saw stories ranging from a sneaky goblin stealing a magical bell, to a chip fairy at the Malinslee Fish Bar! The final performance was held at Telford Minster and saw five orchestras as the accompaniment to the two opera singers.



## Youth Leadership

The Telford In Harmony Youth Ensemble (TIHYE) had its first performance entirely led by its members. The repertoire played was selected and chosen by the young people and the final rehearsals and performance were conducted by one of the young musicians from the ensemble.

## In Harmony Creative Music Summer Schools

Upcoming this summer, In Harmony is holding two three-day creative music summer schools, one in Telford and one in Stoke-on-Trent. These will give the young musicians an opportunity to work creatively alongside a professional band to come up with their own musical performances.



[www.inharmonytelfordstoke.org](http://www.inharmonytelfordstoke.org)

# Young Sounds UK

Young Sounds UK (formally known as Awards for Young Musicians) meet every term for students to discover a new musical experience...

Welcome to Fuse Festival 2024 – Lichfield, Staffordshire. This is not just an event; it is a vibrant music and arts festival committed to inclusivity and accessibility for all. Immerse yourself in the best of live music, captivating performances, accessible activities and arts, all crafted with you in mind!

Fuse has been a proud initiative of Lichfield Arts since its inception in 2001 and runs as a not-for-profit festival. What began as a dream to provide free, live music and activities for all has blossomed into a beloved summer tradition that unites the community, supports the creative sector, provides opportunity for local businesses in the event industry, and generates income for the local economy.

Operated primarily by volunteers, Fuse has evolved into one of the largest events of its type in Staffordshire and the West Midlands with an average attendance of over 15,000 people. Fuse remains committed to ensure this celebration of community, shared joy in the love of live music and quality arts remains free, inclusive, and accessible to all; this is very much the fundamental ethos mirrored by Young Sounds UK.

Young Sounds UK and The Music Partnership is grateful to Fuse for the support and priority access it has given to our Furthering Talent students, parents and carers. For some of our students, this has been their first ever opportunity to attend a live music festival and to experience the vast expanse of art activities. Hopefully this has inspired them to attend other music festivals in the future as well as encouraging them to perform at Fuse Festival themselves next year?!



Here is a taste of the Fuse Festival experience from one of our students, Iona: *“Thank you for organising us tickets of the Fuse festival in Lichfield today. It was really fun. Some of the bands were too loud for me, but we did find a couple that we could watch, which was amazing. We also did lots of fun activities”*.





The Music Partnership and Out of the Ark Music work in partnership to offer subsidised subscriptions to Sparkyard. All Primary Schools in Staffordshire, Telford and Wrekin, Shropshire and Stoke can save 30% by contacting their Music Hub and requesting a discount code. Out of the Ark's 45-minute Cup Of Tea & CPD online workshop sessions to help you get the most out of this award-winning\* resource. We have three amazing workshops to choose from:

### A Sparkyard Tour

This is perfect if you want to find out a bit more about Sparkyard and what it has to offer, or if you already have a subscription and want to learn some new tips and tricks!

### This workshop will cover:

- How to teach songs in the classroom with Sparkyard
- How to share songs with pupils at home
- Ways to explore and find songs and resources for every purpose
- How to personalize Sparkyard for your own needs
- An introduction to the Sparkyard Music Curriculum

## Sparkyard Music Curriculum – A Whistlestop Tour

This session will provide an overview of our flexible, skills-based curriculum with Out of the Ark songs at its heart. It is perfect for giving you a taste of our curriculum activities from Reception to Year 6. This workshop is suitable for everyone, from trainee teachers to experienced music coordinators or school leaders.

### This workshop will cover:

- The National Curriculum coverage and how the Sparkyard Music Curriculum enables high-quality music-making whilst covering every aspect of National Curriculum delivery
- Our brand-new Reception Music Curriculum
- Sparkyard Music Curriculum and the bigger picture

## Every Day Is A Sparkyard Day

This workshop is packed full of songs and ideas to see you through an entire school day! This session will help you create a bank of songs and musical activities to signpost key moments from the very start to the end of the day. This workshop is suitable for all staff working in a school setting.

### This workshop will cover:

- How to use Sparkyard as a powerful tool for effective behaviour management
- How to use songs and music to build classroom routines and develop a positive classroom environment

If you would like to find out more about these workshops, or book on to one, please visit: [www.sparkyard.com/workshops](http://www.sparkyard.com/workshops)

### Autumn Sparkyard Dates:

- Sparkyard Music Curriculum - Tuesday 17th September - 4:30pm
- Sparkyard in the Classroom - Wednesday 9th October - 4:00pm



# Friends of Staffordshire's Young Musicians (FOSYM)



It has been a busy few months for Friends of Staffordshire's Young Musicians (FOSYM). At the end of March we recruited our first paid member of staff, Laura Holden as our Charity Manager.

Laura's role is to develop and expand the charity, increase the number of Young Musicians we support through new funding opportunities and increase the visibility of the charity. It is a very exciting time for FOSYM and please keep an eye out for more new developments!

Laura is a local musician herself, playing bass guitar and singing lead vocals in country band Chasing Twisters. Here is Laura performing recently at Stafford Music and Food Festival.



Laura Holden



# Staffordshire Young Musician

On 13th and 14th July we supported the annual Staffordshire Young Musician competitions for Instrumentalists, Singers and Composers. The event is organised by Entrust Music Service Staffordshire, and supported by FOSYM both financially and with volunteer help providing information and refreshments.

FOSYM's support of the competition over the years has been vital in providing an opportunity to encourage and celebrate the hard work and achievement of young people in their music-making. Anyone who bought raffle tickets or became members of the charity at the event will help continue to support these opportunities, as our fundraising is really important at these events. Those that win the coveted title of 'Staffordshire Young Musician' report how being part of the events has inspired them and given them confidence at a vital stage in their musical journey. It has also opened up further opportunities. FOSYM keeps in touch with many past winners and follows their careers with great interest, including Rob Fuller, who is now a Trustee for the organisation and gave entrants competing this year some encouraging words of advice.

## Here are the Staffordshire Young Musician 2024 Winners...



A huge thank you to our adjudicators too; Jonathan Gill (Vocal), Simone Rebello (Instrumental) and Steve Willey (Composer). They gave excellent feedback to all of the young musicians, which hopefully inspires them to continue their musical journey and further develop their skills.

With the incredible help of our loyal supporters, FOSYM enables children to experience and participate in the joy of music, and provides inspiration for their futures. From helping an individual child in need of financial aid to learn an instrument, to providing additional income for underfunded music provision in schools FOSYM can support the cost of activities such as:

- Regular instrumental or vocal lessons for a set period of time;
- Membership of a music group or ensemble;
- Purchase of instruments or music-related equipment;
- Sheet music for an exam or course;
- An instrumental or vocal exam entry;
- Attendance at a music audition or interview for a music course at a College or University;
- Attendance at a Masterclass or short course that will help musical development;
- Attendance at a concert or musical event that will enhance learning.





# 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](http://www.fosym.org.uk) or contact your local music service.

## Contacts for the TMP team



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