

Dorset Music Hub Schools' Update – March 2024



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Welcome

from Clair McColl, Strategic Lead, Dorset Music Service

The Spring term may have now sprung (and well done to all for making it this far!) but I'm sure many of you are preparing for end of term musical performances - and some alongside supporting young people through assessment as well. Thank you for all that you do, week after week, to support and celebrate our young people in their creativity and music-making. Just a few words from me as it's so busy...

Thanks to all who completed our consultation survey about how we can best support schools to deliver and facilitate 'classroom instrumental learning' - the new term for whole class ensemble tuition or the musicianship programme as we have called it for many years. We are listening closely to the feedback

we've received, alongside common priorities identified within School Music Development Plans and the many conversations with our Music Area Lead team. We want to create an offer that is flexible, supports the development of skills and confidence across schools and enables even more of our pupils enjoy high-quality musical learning. You can feed into the conversation about support for music and creativity in lots of ways - some are listed below. We look forward to sharing the confirmed offer via Nexus soon.

This week brings 'Neurodiversity Celebration Week', a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. My Education team colleagues shared the Anna Freud approach of viewing 'Every classroom as neurodiverse - because every pupil will have a different way of thinking, feeling, and learning'. The Anna Freud Centre has produced [a very helpful tool kit to support schools in their approach to neurodiversity](#).

Here's some suggestions and reflections on adapting the [musical classroom to be more inclusive of neurodiverse learners from a recent edition of Music Teacher](#). If you would like to find out more about strategies to increase musical engagement through inclusive musical practice, please contact our lead for musical inclusion, Pili Lopez (maria.araujlopez@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or discuss with your Music Area Lead.

There are lots of ways you can have your say on how we support and work with the musical and creative workforce - we all want to enable more pupils to thrive through their engagement with musical and creative learning!

If you have ideas about how we can all work together to do just that, please get involved in the conversation:

- Take up opportunities to connect with our Music Area Leads (MALs) and locality colleagues through our Locality Music Networks – to plan and learn together
- Meet with our MAL team to get support with your own School Music Development Plans
- Get involved in consultations around support for instrumental and vocal tuition or the upcoming review of the Musicianship Programme (in line with the updated guidance on 'classroom instrumental learning' with the [NPME](#))
- Participate in a focused 'special interest groups' (school -based practice, EY Music, instrumental learning & groups, Music Tech and Youth Led, Inclusion and the network supporting cultural education) to help shape the overall Hub offer and feed into the DMH Governance board.

Keep an eye out for more updates and details – and [please get in touch](#) to discuss your support needs, or to tell us *your* great idea to help get more young people in Dorset Making Music!

'Bite-size' CPD day for Music Subject Leaders - next Monday!

*We've been listening to what YOU have told us about your music development needs and have put together a programme of 'bite-size' training sessions to help fulfil them. Join us for the full day or just for the sessions that you need the most! **It's not too late to book your place!***

Join us next Monday, 25th March, and **choose** from a curated choice of training sessions on topics you've told us you need the most support with. Attend one or two covering priority areas or join us for the full day. You can come and go as you please throughout the day!

- *For:* Music Subject Leaders, class teachers and support staff teaching Primary-age pupils
- *Date:* Monday 25th March 2024
- *Venue:* **Charlton Down Village Hall** near Dorchester (DT2 9UA)
- *Cost:* FREE - as part of your Dorset Music Hub membership
- *Refreshments:* Tea and coffee provided (Please bring your own lunch if you are planning to stay all day)

Session 1 choices (09:30-10:45):

- An introduction to music technology in the primary curriculum using 'YuStudio'
- Creating inclusive music groups in your school
- Progression of skills and knowledge in the primary curriculum

Session 2 (11:00-12:15) choices:

- Progression of singing in the primary curriculum & using your voice confidently in the primary classroom
- Developing confidence in teaching music through musicianship skills
- Ofsted updates in music education

Session 3 (13:15-14:30) choices:

- Using music to support wellbeing of staff and pupils
- Using Charanga to develop instrumental skills

Follow this link for more details about the content of the sessions and to book your place

We're condensing many strands of our CPD offer into this full day event rather than spreading them across the year in shorter sessions. This should make it easier for you to be released from your classes to attend - and will make it cheaper for your school!

Please contact us if you have any questions about the day:

- dorsetmusicservice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
- 01305 225770

Summer Term network meetings - dates for your diary

Come along to your local Summer Term network meeting for the latest updates and to make valuable connections with musicians, other Music Subject Leads and music organisations in your area.

Summer Term:

- Purbeck area with Pili: 21st May **1.00pm-2.00pm (NEW TIME)**
- West Dorset area with Hannah: 22nd May 3.45pm-4.45pm
- North Dorset area with Dianne: 21st May 3.45pm-4.45pm
- Chesil area with Pili: 23rd May 4.00pm-5.00pm
- East Dorset area with Pete: 23rd May 4.00pm-5.00pm

Look out for more details from our team via email and on Padlet

Contact our Dorset Music Hub Area Leaders:

- North Dorset (Dianne Ely) - dianne.ely@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
- East Dorset (Pete Whitmarsh) - peter.whitmarsh@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
- Purbeck, Lytchett and Chesil (Pili Lopez) - maria.araujolopez@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
- West Dorset (Hannah Reeves) - hannah.reeves@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Hub membership - are you overdue?

Please ensure that your school's hub membership is paid if you are accessing our services and subsidised resources this academic year.

Things included in your Dorset Music Hub (DMH) membership:

- Musicianship Programme
- Subsidised access to the Charanga and Sing Up online resources
- CPD events
- Network meetings
- Advice and support from DMH staff

- And more!

Renew your membership via the [Dorset Music Hub page on Nexus](#).

Music and Wellbeing training for ELSAs – booking now open

We're excited to announce a new CPD opportunity which allows ELSAs to build on the music wellbeing training they received as part of their initial ELSA course.

Music is a proven vehicle for enhancing the wellbeing of children and young people facing challenges in their lives. This 2-hour follow-on course will help ELSAs to expand and embed music wellbeing activities into their sessions with students.

All ELSAs are welcome to attend – even if they didn't receive music wellbeing training during their initial course.

The session will be packed with activities and ideas on how ELSAs can facilitate students' musical creativity in a safe space. It will explore how to use music to help students:

- *express and deal with their feelings*
- *feel less stressed and boost their mood*
- *to calm or energise themselves*

The cost of the 2-hour course is **£35 per person** for state schools and settings (£70 per person for private sector schools and settings).

Venue / Day / time:

Salway Ash Primary School - Tues 23rd April 9.30-11.30am

Shillingstone Primary School - Tues 23rd April 1.00-3.00pm

Wimborne First School - Tues 23rd April 1.00-3.00pm

Lytchett Matravers Primary School - Tues 30th April 9.00-11.00am

Chickerell Primary Academy - Tues 30th April 1.00-3.00pm

[ELSA's should book their place on the training by following this link.](#)

Music Tech Training with Anthony Lees

Come along to these **FREE** Music Tech training sessions to learn how to use:

- **BandLab**
 - **Chrome Music Lab**
 - **Audacity**
-

Anthony Lees is an educator, course leader and speaker who has been a primary class teacher, specialist teacher, whole class instrument teacher, course facilitator, musician and trainer. He has spent years in the classroom, working across hundreds of schools in the south west of England, teaching extended whole class music projects to primary students and working alongside class teachers and other specialist teachers.

Anthony is currently deputy head of a large primary school, within a multi academy trust where he leads on EdTech and computing for the trust - as well as music. His school is on the primary branch of the regional NCE Computing Hub, CAS group and EdTech Demonstrator School.

Twitter: [@anthonylees](https://twitter.com/anthonylees) | LinkedIn: [anthonylees](https://www.linkedin.com/in/anthonylees)

Chrome Music Lab and BandLab: A range of online free approaches to composing

- Tuesday 7th May 3:45pm - 5:00pm (online)

Take BandLab further and prepare pupils for online music making with another free tool; Chrome Music Lab. We will explore the range of musical experiments to both compose musical ideas and also collaborate with other pupils. We will explore a series of projects that move between the two platforms to show how progression, scaffold and adaptation are possible.

Using Audacity to record classroom singing and composition

- Tuesday 2nd July 3:45pm - 5:00pm (online)

Get to know the free multi-track recording program Audacity, for Windows, Mac and Linux. We will explore a range of uses from pupils recording sound walks, recording group performances, pupils editing their own composition recordings, and using filters and effects. Explore several projects in more depth to have examples to take straight into class.

[Follow this link to book your place on one or more of these sessions](#)

Benedetti Foundation online sessions for pupils

The Benedetti Foundation are running online sessions for school age upper strings players which violin/viola pupils may be interested in. Teachers are also welcome to register to observe...

- Wednesday 27 March, 7-8pm UK Time - Top Tips for Developing Scales and Arpeggios for Intermediate and Advanced Violin and Viola Players with Amy Beth Horman
- Tuesday 16 April 7.30-8.30pm UK Time - Fiddly Fourth Fingers for School Age Upper Strings Players with Alex Laing

More details can be found [here](#).

Ignite: Dorset's Cultural Children and Young People Network

Dorset Music Service and The Arts Development Company are launching a new network to bring together teachers, educators and those interested in arts, heritage and cultural education for children and young people.

The group is open to everyone working or interested in cultural and creative education in Dorset, including teachers, freelance educators, outreach officers, teaching assistants and anyone pursuing or interesting in a creative education career.

The group is free to join and the meetings are open to everyone.

We hope that by bringing educators and creative practitioners together to share their stories, ideas and mutual passion for creativity, we can give a boost to the number of children and young people benefitting from high quality creative experiences both in and out of school.

If you are passionate about developing the creative sparks in your community, and would like connect with colleagues from across the cultural network in Dorset please let us know at:

dorsetmusicservice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra KS1 Concert

*Tickets are available to the **BSO's KS1 Schools Concert taking place at the Westlands Entertainment Venue in Yeovil at 1.30pm on Wednesday 17th April 2024***

Designed especially for a KS1 audience, the 1-hour presented concert will feature a small ensemble of musicians from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO). Performing a fun programme of adventurous music, this concert will showcase the instruments of the orchestra and explore how musicians and composers have stretched the boundaries of music.

For more information or to book your school in, please contact: <https://bsolive.com/events/from-west-end-to-hollywood/>

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra KS2 Concert

Bookings are live for the BSO's Explore the Orchestra KS2 schools' concerts at the Lighthouse, Poole 21st & 22nd May 2024! Places will go quickly, so don't forget to book your tickets now!

Follow this link for details of performances at 10.15am & 1.30pm on 21st & 22nd May:

[Explore the Orchestra - Sea Stories](#)

Dorset Youth Jazz Orchestra

Please share this information with your students...

Spaces are now available in the Dorset Youth Jazz Orchestra (DYJO)

[DYJO](#) is an intermediate to advanced youth jazz orchestra led by renowned local jazz musician Terry Quinney.

It's aimed at musicians of approximately Grade 4 standard and above.

Rehearsals happen monthly in term-time.

FREE taster sessions available

Spaces are available for students who play...

- trombone
- trumpet
- saxophone
- guitar
- flute

For more details and to apply, please visit the [Dorset Music Service website](#).

DYJO - Come and Play Jazz Open Day with Laura Jurd

[DYJO](#) is very excited to be hosting a **FREE** open-rehearsal and jazz improvisation masterclass with renowned trumpeter, improviser and composer, [Laura Jurd](#).

Come along to play classics such as *Birdland*, *A Night in Tunisia*, *Mercy Mercy Mercy*, *Green Onions* and... *Sesame Street*!

- All young people in full time education under the age of 21 on saxophone, flute, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar, double-bass, piano and drums are invited.

- If you, or your young person, are interested in attending but don't play one of these instruments please contact us.
- To get the most out of the day, we would recommend that participants are of approximately Grade 4 standard or higher - but this isn't essential.

When: **Sunday 19th May, 10.00am – 3.30pm**

Where: [Charlton Marshall Village Hall](#), near Blandford Forum, DT11 9PF.

[Book a FREE place at DYJO's Come and Play Jazz Day with Laura Jurd](#)

For any queries, please contact Dorset Music Service: 01305 225770 / dorsetmusicservice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

Dorset Rural Music School

[Dorset Rural Music School \(DRMS\)](#), based in Blandford Forum, reaches out across the county of Dorset, engaging young musicians and school pupils from Early Years through to Sixth Form offering instrumental music lessons, as well as courses and groups, schools and community projects, bespoke events and concerts.

DRMS enjoys developing themed cross-curricular projects for schools, providing musicians to work with pupils on all kinds of topics that support classroom learning. They provide strong, well-coordinated timelines complete with ready-made resources.

[Examples of sessions that DRMS can provide to schools:](#)

- **Samba School:** Whole school samba days - sessions are 30 - 45 mins, they include singing and are completely bespoke to each class. DRMS provides these for all ages and abilities with experienced differentiation for S.E.N.D. and Special Schools. Samba Fiesta days draw the whole school community together, they encourage team spirit, concentration, self esteem, counting skills, listening skills ... and they are great fun! Contact DRMS by email for availability and cost.
- **Fairy Tales and Legends:** Storytelling through music is a powerful introduction to musical creativity. Experimenting with sound and improvisation, children discover how to express themselves freely and tell musical narratives. These sessions are full of spontaneity and energy with plenty of experimentation and laughter whilst subtly developing core musical skills. Subject to numbers, DRMS can provide sessions for pupils aged from 2 years to 14 years (Early Years – Key Stage 3), including a warm welcome to Home Educated students and those with Special Educational Needs. One five week progressive course costs £50, all parents/Carers are welcome.
- **Baroque Academy:** Class music introductions to the beginnings of music. These are 30 - 45-minute sessions with an accompanying PowerPoint and live performance plus supporting practical workshops, with the additional possibility for individual violin lessons. We target these courses at

Year 5 classes. We can provide single sessions or a highly recommended course of classes over a longer timeline. For further information and cost, email DRMS.

- **A-Level tuition:** DRMS can provide first class tuition for A-Level students who cannot access A-Level music in their school. Working in small groups, we can cover the entire curriculum, including valuable support with performance.
- **‘Breathe’ Breathing workshops:** DRMS has developed a new online opportunity for teenagers to engage in workshops for breathing. We provide these sessions during the school day, highlighting the importance of breath-work to improve physical and mental wellbeing, addressing anxiety and instilling techniques for young people to navigate the challenges of modern day life.

Your pupils and their families might be interested to know that DRMS provides a wide range of **music tuition** for individuals on piano, harpsichord, organ, voice/singing/vocal coaching, folk instruments, guitar, brass, woodwind, strings, percussion, baroque music, ensemble playing, music theory, harmony and composition, Music Therapy, Early Years sessions and other workshops. For more details, please visit [DRMS: Learning with Us](#).

Go to [DRMS: Schools](#) to find out more about what DRMS can offer you.

Changing Key Dorset – Richard Ely Bursary funding

Please share this information with your instrumentalists and their families...

Dorset Music Hub partner charity, [Changing Key Dorset](#), offers funding awards for up to £300 per year to young musicians facing challenging circumstances.

Applications for funding from Changing Key Dorset are welcomed from any young musician educated across Dorset, including the wider BCP area. The funding can be used to support a variety of musical activities provided by private or public providers for up to a year.

Applications can be made online at anytime.

For more details about funding awards please visit the [funding application page](#) on the Changing Key Dorset website.

To become a supporter of Changing Key Dorset and to receive all the latest communications, please sign-up to the [mailing list](#).

Please visit the Changing Key Dorset website for more information: <https://changingkeydorset.co.uk/>

Application closing dates for grants beginning in Autumn Term 2024 –

- Round 1: Monday 1st July 2024
- Round 2: Monday 9th September 2024

Musicianship Programme reminders

Has your school had the Musicianship Programme this term or are you expecting it next term?

Spring Term schools:

Once your sessions have finished this term, we will be collecting the instruments or equipment from your school. For schools that have had ukuleles or recorders, we ask for your assistance with a few things regarding packing the instruments so that the collection process goes as smoothly as possible.

Please ensure that:

- instruments that have been going home with pupils stay in school after your final session;
- *the correct instrument is in the correct case* (to check this, please compare the DMS ID number on your instrument list with the one handwritten on the case - ignore the number on any keyrings attached);
- instruments are packed back in the bags or boxes they were delivered in.

Summer Term schools:

- Please check your Musicianship Programme allocation (which we confirmed via email last July) and, if the number of children taking part has changed, please let us know as soon as possible.
- If you have planned for more than one class to participate, you need to purchase additional classes (at £126 each) via the [Dorset Music Hub page on Nexus](#) as the standard whole-class Musicianship Programme, included as part of DMH membership, is for one class per school.

Next Steps - after the Musicianship Programme

*Every child should be able to experience the joy of music - we are offering a **free instrument loan** for all those pupils who have completed the Musicianship Programme this year.*

As part of our 'Next Steps' programme we can offer free instrument loan for one year to pupils who are learning with a music teacher in the school setting - this could be during or out of school hours.

You are welcome to use your existing music teachers to access this offer and we encourage you to speak with them to see if they would like to deliver a demonstration or talk to your class about what it's like to learn to play their instrument.

We want children to follow their own musical paths so giving a choice of instrument will set children on their journey of music and hopefully create a lifelong love of music.

If you don't currently have any music tuition happening in school, then do get in touch with us to see what we may be able to offer you or which local teachers we could put you in touch with.

[More details and booking information](#)

Creative Musical Nurture Groups

Help boost the resilience and confidence of your most vulnerable pupils through this exciting programme.

A Creative Musical Nurture Group (CMNG) is a weekly creative, instrumental music session for 3-5 children in KS2 or KS3. Participants are identified by schools as being vulnerable and at risk of poor outcomes due to mental health, behaviour, or general confidence difficulties.

The CMNG provides a calm and nurturing environment where children can build their resilience and agency and develop a sense of belonging through music.

Each CMNG of 3-5 children has a cost of £400, based around 1 term's delivery - Dorset Music Hub will fund 25% of the cost. For advice on how to fund the remaining £300 please contact us.

If you have pupils who you think would benefit from a CMNG, please discuss this offer with your SENCo as they will need to be involved throughout the process.

[Follow this link for more information about CMNGs and how to book](#)

Music Mentoring...

...for students experiencing barriers to education

Our Music Mentoring programme is tailored towards young people with social, emotional and/or mental health barriers, and with personal outcomes such as developing resilience, agency and a sense of belonging through music. These outcomes are just as important as musical ones in this 1:1 programme.



The programme comprises ten weekly sessions that last for 45 minutes each. During the sessions, the leader guides the young person in making his/her/their own music. This music is created with the help of an online digital audio workstation (BandLab). The use of instruments (or vocals) is optional. Typically, by the end of the programme, the young person will have completed several tracks or songs.

It's possible to arrange sessions at the student's home, in school, or at other alternative settings such as youth centres.

[More details and booking information](#)

Spotlight on localities

This is a regular feature where we aim to highlight examples of exciting events and opportunities, and share inspiring stories from our localities.

If you have something to share from your school, or local area, please tell us about it so we can feature it in a future edition!

Please email content to dorsetmusicservice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

West Dorset

Magic Flute Opera Project

Around 100 primary aged children from 5 local schools will be performing a selection of songs from Mozart's 'The Magic Flute' alongside a professional opera singer on **Thursday 21st March**. This event has been a collaborative effort between local primary schools and community musician Matt Kingston. Anyone is welcome to attend St.Swithun's church, Bridport at 4pm and see the wonderful work of these young children and experience the joy of opera!

Amplified

'Amplified' will take place on May 20th at Bridport Arts Centre. This event is a collaboration between schools and local organisations and will see year 6 children from 14 local schools be inspired by live performances and a 'big sing'. There will be also be events at the venue for any age child from 3.30pm including a 'Have a go' session led by Dorset Music Hub and a 'Creative Jam' led by B Sharp.

B Sharp

Lyme Regis based charity [B Sharp](#) is passionate about building a sound future for young people through music. They offer a broad, inclusive programme of music, singing, participation, creation, performance and development from early years to adulthood, and to young people from a wide variety of backgrounds across West Dorset, East Devon and South Somerset.

B Sharp offers...

- [Inclusive music making groups](#) for children aged 8-18 years (weekly).
- [Music groups for parents with babies and toddlers](#) (weekly).
- [1-to-1 sessions](#) to help young people explore their emotions, express themselves and connect.
- [Training and development opportunities](#) for young people aged 16-25. And much more!

Featured opportunities:

- **Bridport Boombox:** Bridport Boombox for children age 8+ @ Colfox, Wednesday 3.45pm. Any child can attend and they don't need to play an instrument! Free places and bursaries available where needed - [Bridport Boombox - B Sharp](#)

- **Bridport Jams:** Secondary age club at Bridport Arts Centre on a Monday nights - [Bridport Jams - B Sharp](#)

Bridport Youth Open Mic Nights presented by Dorset Music Hub and Elijah Wolf...

DORSET MUSIC HUB & ELIJAH WOLF PRESENT.....

YOUTH

OPEN MIC NIGHT

STARTING
MON 19 FEB

FROM 6 TIL 9 PM

EVERY THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH
@ TORTILLA CANTINA.
31 EAST STREET, BRIDPORT

OPEN TO ALL MUSICIANS
12-18 YRS

DO YOU SING? PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?
HAVE A BAND? THEN WE WANT TO HEAR YOU!!

Come along and perform whatever you feel.
All genres, originals and covers welcome!

NACHOS | SODAS | MUSIC

DORSET MUSIC HUB
led by Dorset Music Service

For more info and to sign up email Alex.dmehtworkshops@gmail.com

Purbeck and Lytchett

Purbeck Youth Music concert

The latest Purbeck Youth Music (PYM) concert was on Tuesday March 12th at 6pm in the URC on Swanage High Street.... and what a success it was! More families than ever arrived with their children who were taking part in the termly PYM 'work in progress' concert. This is an occasion for all pupils learning an instrument to have the chance to perform for their family and friends. See below for more details about PYM.

Purbeck Youth Music

Local charity [Purbeck Youth Music](#) (PYM) exists to inspire, encourage and develop young people in Purbeck through an extensive network of professional musicians and instrumental teachers, providing lessons and instruments and a programme of interactive presentations, workshops and ensembles.

PYM offers...

- **Instrument loans** from as little as £23 per annum
- **Instrumental tuition:** 1:1 lessons, small group tuition and beginner taster groups (from as little as £10 for a series of sessions)
- **Ensembles:** brass, woodwind and strings - providing regular opportunities to play and perform together.

For more details about these offers and more, visit [PYM: Instruments and Lessons](#)

PYM: "Inspire and enthuse a new generation of young musicians."

School singing workshops with Susannah Nettleton

These workshops have proved to be both popular and successful. Susannah inspired five primary schools in the Autumn Term: Swanage Primary, St George's Langton, Wool C of E Primary, St. Mark's Swanage and St. Mary's Swanage. She worked with a further four in the Spring Term: Stoborough, Wareham St Mary, Corfe Castle and St Mary and St Joseph's Wool.

Susannah sends material to the schools ahead of her visit and then uses the prepared work to teach the children how to sing by ear, in parts and in canon.

This academic year's singing project will culminate with two singing celebrations in the summer term for Years 3 and 4 - one at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage on the 3rd of July at 18:30 and one at Lady St. Mary's church, Wareham on the 9th of July at 14:00.

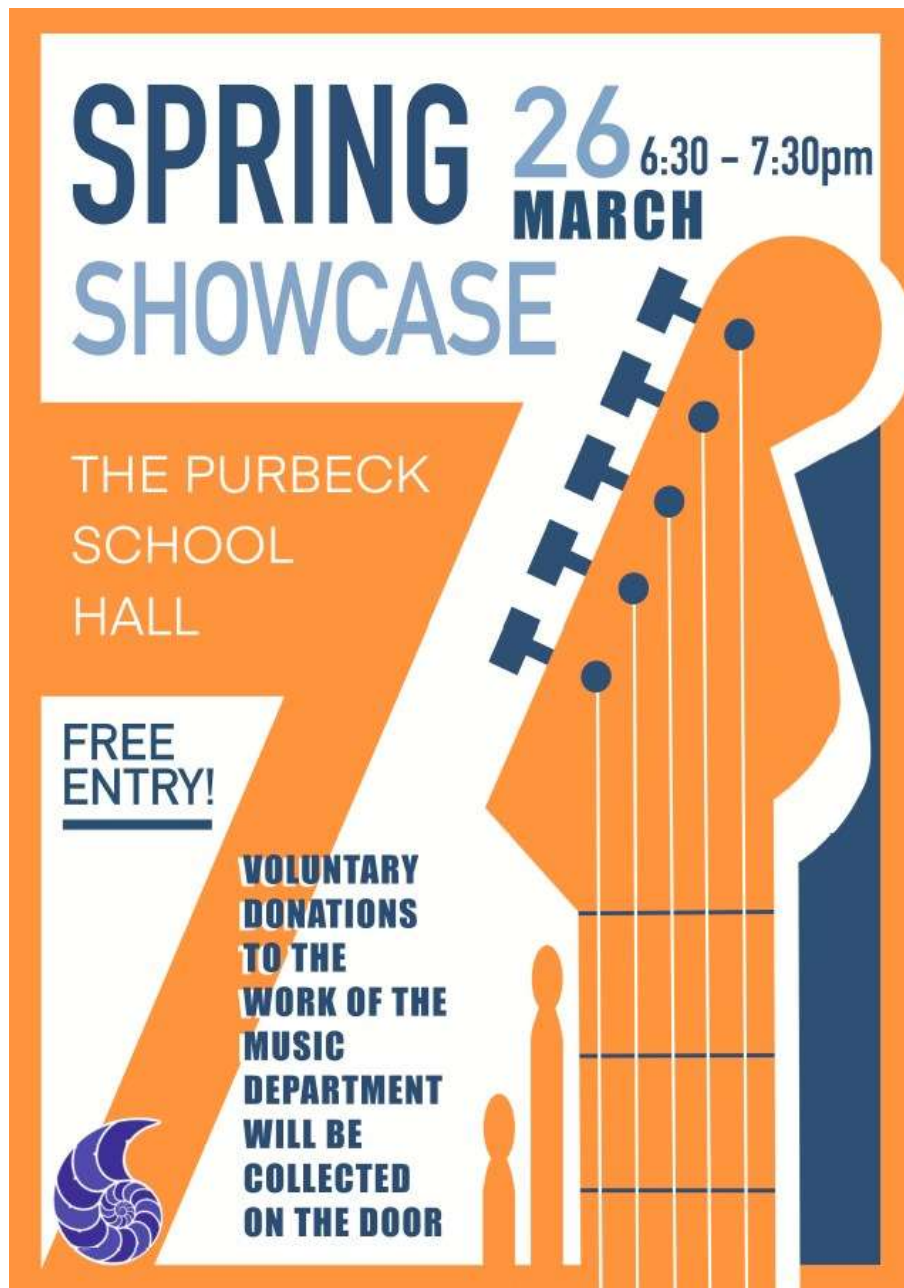
Improvisation and Paperless Playing - Rob Mills Jazz Masterclass

A one day masterclass for Purbeck young musicians with internationally experienced musician, composer and saxophonist Rob Mills. Young players from 12-20 with an interest in jazz and any level of ability and experience are invited to join this free one day workshop on 6th April. You will learn techniques to help you play and improvise within a group of musicians, as well as learning how to commit simple arrangements to memory for more conventional tunes.

This is a hands-on workshop, so expect to participate and be playing for most of the day. Please bring your own instrument and small amplifier if you need it, a packed lunch and something to drink. All kinds of instrument are welcome, including vocalists.

You can sign up by emailing your name, age, instrument, and any access needs. A parent/carer's permission will be needed for under 18s. Interested? Get in touch to book your place or ask any questions! For more information, please visit <https://sandyhillarts.co.uk/> or contact info@sandyhillarts.co.uk

Purbeck School Spring Showcase...




SPRING 26 6:30 - 7:30pm
SHOWCASE MARCH

THE PURBECK
SCHOOL
HALL

**FREE
ENTRY!**

**VOLUNTARY
DONATIONS
TO THE
WORK OF THE
MUSIC
DEPARTMENT
WILL BE
COLLECTED
ON THE DOOR**



Launch of New Youth Music Project in Weymouth

An exciting new project will give hundreds of local young people the chance to learn and develop music skills over the next two years. The STEPS Youth Music Project has received a grant of £29,378 over two years from the [Youth Music 'Trailblazer' fund](#) and is now ready to offer an array of music workshops, taster days and events.

The project aims to engage over 400 young people aged 13-19, from those who already play instruments to those who are completely new to music. Included in the planned activities are:

- Learning to play instruments (guitar, keyboards, drums, percussion etc)
- DJ Skills workshops (digital and vinyl)
- Singing/vocals and performance workshops
- Lyric-writing workshops
- Music industry skills (recording, sound engineering, lighting etc)
- Recording of young people-created music
- Performances – ‘open mic’ nights, poetry slams, flash-mobs and mini-concerts
- Band bashes
- A big end-of-project concert

The activities will take place on certain weekday evenings and at weekends, using a variety of venues. Most activities and workshops will be at [STEPS Club for Young People](#) on Chickerell Road in Weymouth, but the project will also utilise space at Weymouth College, the Dry Dock and the Antix Music Network studio.

Principal Youth Worker Tom Lane said: “The Youth Music Project is an exciting opportunity for young people to get involved, to learn and develop their skills and to be creative. The project will cater for everyone from absolute beginners to those who play to a decent level and there are plenty of opportunities for lyricists, rappers, singers and people interested in music but not playing an instrument. The project is free to participants and it’s a great opportunity to get expert tuition and to take part in fun workshops creating music and music videos and trying everything from hip-hop dancing to rapping to honing your DJ skills on both vinyl and digital decks!”

Lily Jeary, 16, who is a member of the project’s Young People’s Steering Group added: “I’ve been doing the DJ lessons and am hoping to perform at the Pavilion in April at the Nostalgia event. I’ve also bought a bass guitar and want to start learning to play and to form a band with friends. I also want to be involved with making music videos. I encourage all young people who are interested to come and have fun with us on the project.”

Youth Music is a national charity, part-funded by the National Lottery (via Arts Council England) and the People's Postcode Lottery.

Anyone aged 13-19 interested in taking part in the project is asked to email Tom at stepsclub@yahoo.co.uk.

East Dorset

Broadstone Music Series / Poole Society for Young Musicians

[Broadstone Music Series](#) exists under the title of "Poole Society for Young Musicians" (registered charity no 1171893) and their groups and events are open to students from across Dorset.

They present an annual series of professional musical events throughout the year, dedicated to the highest standards of excellence through professional recitals and also providing performing opportunities for young aspiring musicians alongside renowned professionals.

It is their goal to integrate professional musicians - including those invited from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra - to work with young talented musicians through workshops, masterclasses and joint performances.

See details below of some of the exciting opportunities they have available:

- Jurassic Brass
- Youth Camerata Chamber Club
- Summertime Music Course 2024

For information, [follow this link to the Broadstone Music Series website](#)

North Dorset

***Idomeneo* at Sherborne Abbey**

On Saturday 2nd March, singers and instrumentalists from state and independent schools in Dorset came together with professional musicians and soloists to perform Mozart's *Idomeneo* in Sherborne Abbey.

The performance was organised by Jon Valender with funding *Dorset Council* and *The People's Postcode Lottery*, and with the advice and support of other local charities (*The Arts Development Company*, *What's Next? Dorset*, and *Changemakers*) and members of the local community.

The performance was conducted by Andrew Griffiths who is Head Coach & Music Consultant at the National Opera Studio. The title role of *Idomeneo* was played by Jon Valender. Students performing came from these schools:

- The Gryphon School
- Leweston School
- Monkton Combe Senior School
- Perrott Hill
- The Bournemouth School

- Thomas Hardye School

Jon has launched an education charity called '[Destination Opera](https://www.destinationopera.co.uk/)' with the aim of bringing the experience of opera to more young people. To find out more, and to support Jon's work, visit

<https://www.destinationopera.co.uk/>.

Dorchester area

Singing Schools Festivals

Over the last term, Hanna Trevorrow (Head of Wessex Schools Music) has worked with 14 first schools to prepare pupils in Year 4 (and some in Year 3) for the Singing Schools festival which took place on 11th-13th March. The children learnt five songs, which they performed in harmony altogether, and in addition, each school chose one song to sing on their own. The children performed brilliantly and we hope that they all enjoyed the experience.

Some quotes from the audience:

- *"It was lovely to see how engaged and committed they were, and above all, the joy they exuded."*
- *"Everyone did such a great job!"*
- *"An amazing performance thank you."*
- *"Tuesday's concert was magnificent and full of joy."*

Wind and Brass Day at Sunninghill

On 8th February, 30 of our students from the middle schools joined students from Sunninghill Prep School for a Wind and Brass day, led by Dave Andrews from Music Makers. This was a wonderful day and our students got to play both as a massed ensemble and in smaller groups, and received coaching from a variety of experience instrumental teachers. At the end of the day, the students performed a quick concert for parents, which was very well received. A huge thank you to Sunninghill for organising the day so brilliantly.

Hardyes Orchestra with Dorset Chamber Orchestra

On 9th March, 22 students from Thomas Hardye School joined forces with the semi-professional Dorset Chamber Orchestra for their 'Concert for Youth' in St Mary's church. The students joined with a selected of pieces from the Nutcracker and 'Mambo' from West Side Story. It was a wonderful opportunity to be part of such a large and high-level orchestra.

Nightingales and Thomas Hardye Singers with Dorchester Choral Society

On 16th March, around 20 students from the middle schools and Thomas Hardye joined forces with the Dorchester Choral Society for a concert in St Mary's Church. The students performed two pieces on their own (with wonderful harp accompaniment) and also took part in the large choral work, Pieta by Richard Blackford. For many of the younger students, this was the first time they had experienced singing with an adult choir and performing with an orchestra – a fantastic experience for them.

Julia's House Fundraising Concert

On 17th March, 40 students took part in a concert in United Church to raise funds for Julia's House Hospice. The 'Stringalings' and 'Bandemonium' both performed brilliantly. In addition, ten talented soloists from the middle schools and the Thomas Hardy School performed. This was a great opportunity for the younger students to be inspired by hearing some of the more advanced students playing solos. Well done to everyone who took part!

More information about Wessex Schools Music, including upcoming events, can be found at:
music.wessex.ac

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