



the voices foundation
transforming children through singing

the voices foundation 5-day methodology course

**an aural/vocal approach to
primary curriculum music**

‘completely
inspiring...
this has revolutionised
my teaching and actually
put back the “musical”
in my music
teaching.’

‘a great
course: informative,
educational, and fun
in the extreme.
the best way
to learn!’

‘this
has been one
of the best musical
experiences of my
career.’

(Comments received
from delegates in 2007 and 2008)



the purpose of the course

- To help develop the personal music skills needed for an aural/vocal approach to music education in the primary school curriculum
- To provide course members with training and materials to help them as teachers in class and, as appropriate, to enable them to initiate and lead music curriculum development for non-music-trained teaching colleagues in their own school
- To consider curriculum leadership and the role of the music co-ordinator

The course is designed for teachers with an interest in primary music, instrument teachers and music support teachers. People who have completed the course will be supported by our range of materials and will have access to further training; this could enable them to become a Local Advisory Teacher within their own institution or one of our Advisory Teachers and so train and support other classroom teachers.



the content of the course

- **Personal music skills** - developing through group and individual response
- **Listening** - in a group, as a performer and as a teacher
- **Song repertoire** - as a basis for children's learning
- **Aural development** - individual aural and reading skills
- **Vocal development** - improving/developing vocal quality with children
- **Working in class** - pedagogical ideas and suggestions
- **In the classroom** - resources and organisation
- **The role of the co-ordinator** - discussion
- **Choral repertoire** - choral material to teach by rote
- **The scheme of work** - planning for progression, breadth and balance
- **Composing** - for deeper understanding
- **The place of instruments** - in reinforcing skills and concepts
- **Discussion** - testing, questioning, appraising
- **Evaluating** - teaching and learning experience

The course content for each of the five days will aim to address the needs of individuals and the group as a whole.



commitment and course materials

The course will take place over 5 days spread over an academic year. Each day is a full day, running from 9:30am to 4:00pm. Course members will be expected to undertake set tasks in their schools, and in their own time, between each of the five sessions.

All course members will receive a collection of songs carefully selected for the age-range. There will also be much handout material to support the teacher after the course. All of this material will be distributed on CD. Course members are asked to bring paper and pen/pencil for taking their own notes.



course leaders

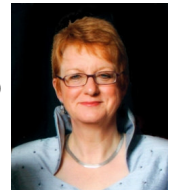
Michael Stocks

A teacher and music education adviser, Michael Stocks believes use of the voice to be essential to music education, particularly in the primary sector. Visits to Hungary and the USA in the 80s, made possible by the award of a Churchill Fellowship and a studentship with the British Council, greatly informed the development of an aural/vocal primary school music education programme in Somerset, where he was Music Adviser for many years. His 'Growing With Music' is now to be found in many primary schools in the United Kingdom. He is currently Director of Curriculum and Training with The Voices Foundation, and Director of the recently-founded HummingBird Music Education.



Sue Hollingworth

Sue Hollingworth is a Graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music where she studied voice. In 1990 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for her work with young choirs. She divides her time between choral directing and education work; Sue is Senior UK Development Advisory Teacher with The Voices Foundation, and is also part-time Music Advisor to North Lincolnshire. She delivers regular workshops and seminars for Making Music, ABCD, Sing for Pleasure and the BKA. Sue is Musical Director of the acclaimed Scunthorpe Co-operative Junior Choir, who sang at the opening of the Millennium Dome, at the Sydney Olympics Torch processions and in Sydney Opera House and who have been finalists or semi-finalists in every Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition since 1994. She also directs Sine Nomine International Touring Choir and is conductor of the Grimsby Philharmonic Choir. Sue is Director of the National Youth Choir of Scotland Training Choir and in 2006 was appointed Director of the National Youth Choir of GB Girls Choir.



Beth Hill

Beth Hill is a music graduate specialising in singing, and she has been a primary teacher for over 20 years, with experience of Early Years, Key Stages 1 & 2, and using music in the wider curriculum. Since 2002 Beth has worked as an Advisory Teacher with The Voices Foundation and has led in-school programmes in many London and south-east England Local Authorities. She was promoted to Regional Development Advisory Teacher for London and the South East in 2006, overseeing all the Foundation's projects in the region. Beth is passionate about singing and enjoys singing in chamber choirs in her spare time. She is involved in community singing projects and also enjoys working with adults who either think they can't sing, or who would like to sing in a group to improve their musical skills.



Rosemary Jones

Rosemary has been a teacher for nearly 25 years. She gained an Honours Music degree at Manchester University before going on to take her PGCE, specialising in the teaching of music to primary age children. She was a music co-ordinator in a number of schools and in 2001 she became an Advisory Teacher for The Voices Foundation; she is currently delivering its one-year programme in primary schools in the North West, and is Regional Development Advisory Teacher with overall responsibility for projects in this area. For several years Rosemary worked as a Choral Animateur for Sefton Borough Council, working with 18 primary schools in the region. In 2003 she led a massed children's choir of several hundred children in an Advent Service at Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral. She has been a member of numerous choirs including the Reading Phoenix Choir and the Manchester Chorale, and currently sings with the Halle. In April 2008 she was invited to sing with the St Endellion Festival Chorus in Cornwall. For a number of years she led her own children's choir, Lymm Young Voices.





about the voices foundation

At the heart of The Voices Foundation's work is a dynamic one-year programme which transforms the quality of life and education for every child in school.

Most of the schools currently involved in the Foundation's projects are low in the league tables, deprived, large ethnically-mixed or small poor rural schools selected by LAs for their under-performance and challenging circumstances.

The Voices Foundation's singing-based programme, which involves every teacher and every child for at least one year, develops vital communication skills, sensitivity and tolerance at a crucial stage in the child's life (5-11).

As well as programmes for schools, The Voices Foundation runs a range of courses for teachers, music co-ordinators, music teachers and those who support teachers.

The Voices Foundation believes the singing voice to be essential to the development of music skills and personal musicianship in the primary phase of education. This approach uses the voice in a transactional way, internalised vocal response coming directly from each child - beyond class singing or the manipulation of an instrument.

In this way, music skills and concepts accumulate quickly, high levels of personal musicianship develop and a deeper understanding of the elements and structure of music is achieved.

This approach is carefully tailored to enable schools to deliver the National Curriculum to a high standard.

For more information on The Voices Foundation and details of its in-school programme, please visit:

www.voices.org.uk



The Voices Foundation is a Sing Up Flagship for 2008-10; Sing Up Flagships are intended to help Sing Up represent, develop and disseminate best practice in singing with primary aged children.