



*'The world of sound is all around them, and from an early age, children will respond with pleasure to a singing voice.'*

# the voices foundation early years course

an aural/vocal approach to music making  
with very young children

Comprised of 3 Wednesday INSET sessions, from 6.30 – 8.00pm, on:

**21 September 2011**

**5 October 2011**

**19 October 2011**

Venue:

**St George's RC Primary School  
1 Winterscale Street  
Fishergate, York  
YO10 4BT**

Course fee:

**£45** per person **OR**  
**£60** to include your  
personal copy of our  
***Inside Music Early Years***  
song & activity resource  
book (current RRP £19.50)

To book your place:

Complete accompanying  
application form and  
return to:  
**The Voices Foundation**

**By 15 September 2011 latest**





## the purpose of the course

- To help Early Years practitioners understand how small children can find their own singing voice.
- To give practitioners opportunity to learn repertoire that can be used in nursery and school settings.
- To help develop the personal music skills needed for an aural/vocal approach to music education in Early Years.



## course content

- 🎵 **Personal music skills** - developing through group and individual response
- 🎵 **Listening and moving to music**
- 🎵 **Song repertoire and vocal development** - for adults who sing to babies and children, and for small children who begin to sing by themselves
- 🎵 **Aural development** - individual aural and reading skills
- 🎵 **Working in Early Years settings** - ideas and suggestions for encouraging small children to sing and enjoy music
- 🎵 **Resources and organisation**
- 🎵 **How to support and mentor colleagues**



## commitment and course materials

The course will be run over 3 twilight INSET sessions in September and October 2011, from 6.30pm to 8.00pm. Course members will be expected to undertake set tasks in their settings between each session.

All course members will receive a collection of songs carefully selected for the age-range. There will also be handout material to support the practitioner after the course.



## course leader

### **Ruth McCartney**

Ruth is a qualified teacher with a B Ed Hons, a Certificate in Music Education and a Diploma in Performance Coaching. She taught as a primary teacher with music specialism for five years before working purely in music education. She also ran a Pre-School Music group for eleven years, a Voices Foundation musicianship programme called "Young Voices in York" for children aged 4-11 for four years and has worked as an Advisory Teacher for The Voices Foundation since 1999.



Ruth's work in local schools has varied from KS3 special schools to nursery schools, working to improve the quality of music in the schools where she has taught. She was appointed Senior Advisory Teacher in 2006, and has led Early Years training programmes for the charity since 2007.



## 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. It has also extended its remit into Early Years, working with practitioners in children's centres and nurseries.

Most of the schools and EY settings currently involved in its projects are low in the league tables, socially challenged, large ethnically-mixed or small poor rural locations selected by LAs for their challenging circumstances.

Its school-based programme, which involves every teacher and child for at least one year, develops vital communication skills, sensitivity and tolerance at a crucial stage in the child's life. The Early Years programme gives practitioners the chance to build up their repertoire and use it in their own settings.

The Voices Foundation believes the singing voice to be essential to the developmental stages of babies and young children. In this way children grow with the ability to sing, build up their vocabulary and enjoy the relationship with the person who is singing with them.

For more information on The Voices Foundation and details of its work across the country, please visit:

[www.voices.org.uk](http://www.voices.org.uk)

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**the voices foundation**  
transforming children through singing



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