

Early Years Foundation Stage Music Two-Year Project: Tri-borough Early Years Music Consortium (TBEYMC)

Press Release: 20th July 2016

Babies and toddlers set to benefit from exciting music project for teachers

The Tri-borough Music Hub and a group of consortium partners has been awarded £100,000 over two years by Youth Music Charity to support music in the Early Years

Thanks to funding from the national charity Youth Music, a trailblazing project is coming to the nursery schools and children's centres across Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, and Westminster. Over the next two years (2016-2018) the project aims to improve the delivery of music for birth to 5 year olds. It will target work with the teachers in Early Years settings and to help provide more co-ordinated music delivery for children.

Clare Chamberlain, Tri-borough Executive Director of Children's Services, said "This project is going to help provide support for the workforce across our Early Years settings and will result in our children engaging in high-quality music. We are delighted that the Tri-borough Music Hub is leading on this project bringing together outstanding music organisations and our own children's centres and Early Years settings."

The Tri-borough Early Years Music Consortium (TBEYMC) project will primarily focus on the most deprived wards across the three Local Authorities (full list in Appendix). The project will address issues affecting children in challenging circumstances such as English as an Additional Language, Special Educational Needs Support, and Speech and Language Therapy. However, there will be wider professional development sessions that will be open to all Early Years Practitioners across the Tri-borough area. The TBEYMC will be working in maintained schools and nurseries; children's centres; and private, voluntary and independent settings.

The TBEYMC project is supported by Youth Music and using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. *Matt Griffiths, CEO, Youth Music* said: "We are delighted to invest in the Tri-borough Music Hub for this strategic programme of work that promises to increase the breadth and quality of Early Years music-making across the three boroughs. The Hub is leading an impressive group of partners it has brought on board for this project and will for the first time include young children from 0 to 5 years in its work. Our experience at Youth Music has shown that for very young children facing challenging circumstances ranging from development delay to issues around parenting, a music-making intervention can have hugely positive outcomes. I'm sure this programme and the legacy it creates will greatly improve the lives of many vulnerable young children and their families."

The partners in the consortium, (listed in the Appendix) will be working with a newly appointed EYFS Strategic Lead, Nicola Burke, to focus on training their own practitioners in the Early Years curriculum which will impact on the work with teachers and toddlers. The whole project is being independently evaluated by Dr. Jessica Pitt. All partners expect that the project will be a beacon for how all Music Education Hubs nationally can work with Early Years settings and practitioners.

Stuart Whatmore, Manager of the TBMH, said: "The TBMH is very excited about this project, is committed to making it a success, and to raising the profile of EYFS Music provision across our three LAs. We have an excellent opportunity to do something ground-breaking which draws together skills, expertise and knowledge from all the partners involved and which makes a significant impact on our EYFS workforce, and ultimately our children." There will be an initial consultation and audit of all settings followed by a series of continuing professional development sessions responding to identified need. Any settings that would like to find out more information are encouraged to make contact with the Music Hub info@triboroughmusicclub.org. For more information visit the [website](#); sign-up to the monthly [e-newsletter](#); or follow us on [twitter](#).



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Background Information and Appendix

The focused wards are:

Ward Name	Local Authority
College Park & Old Oak	LBHF
Wormholt & White City	LBHF
Golborne	RBKC
Notting Dale	RBKC
Dalgarno	RBKC
St Helens	RBKC
Colville	RBKC
Harrow Road	WCC
Queen's Park	WCC
Westbourne	WCC
Church Street	WCC
Churchill Gardens	WCC

Project Overall Aim:

To develop a sustainable network of outstanding Early Years music practice between Early Years settings and a consortium of Tri-borough Music Hub partner organisations to support children's creative and musical entitlement through workforce development, targeted activity, and evaluation.

Outcomes:

1. To embed high quality music-making across Tri-borough EY settings, especially those with high proportions of children in challenging circumstances.
2. To develop a better understanding among partner organisations of the needs of pre-school children in challenging circumstances across the Tri-borough areas, and the parents/carers/staff responsible for them.
3. To improve the skills and knowledge of music practitioners about the Early Years Foundation Stage including the characteristics of effective learning
4. To develop and strengthen the music-leading skills of Early Years professionals across the Tri-borough area.
5. To increase knowledge of innovative practice and excellence in EY music-making across the music education and Early Years sectors.

Partners in the consortium:

1. [Chickenshed Kensington & Chelsea](#)
2. [Creative Futures](#)
3. [Inspire-works](#)
4. [LBHF Children's Centres](#)
5. [Music House for Children](#)
6. [RBKC Children's Centres](#)
7. [Royal Albert Hall](#)
8. [Royal College of Music](#)
9. [Sound Connections](#)
10. [The Voices Foundation](#)
11. [Tri-borough Music Hub](#)
12. Tri-borough School Standards, Children's Services, EYFS Lead Adviser
13. [WCC Children's Centres](#)
14. [Wigmore Hall](#)
15. *Tri-borough EYFS Workforce Development*

About Youth Music

Music-making is life-changing. Every year, Youth Music provides more than 75,000 young people with the opportunity to make music, helping them to overcome the challenges they face in their lives. Their music projects support young people to develop their creative and social skills, make positive contributions to their community and improve their wellbeing.

Youth Music's ongoing research allows them to identify the best ways to engage young people and drive fresh thinking in music education. They also provide a growing online community for thousands of music education professionals.

Youth Music know that many young people still need our help. Join their mission to give every child the chance to make music. Visit www.youthmusic.org.uk

About Tri-borough Music Hub

The [Tri-borough Music Hub](#) (TBMH) is an award-winning centralised Local Authority service which receives core funding from Arts Council England on behalf of the DfE. It is the lead organisation that oversees the delivery of music education in three West London boroughs - the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea; the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham; and City of Westminster - working with schools, pupils and the workforce. The TBMH is based at the Lyric Hammersmith and work with them to widen arts access to all schools.

The overriding [strategic](#) purpose of the TBMH is two-fold:

(1) to *engage with all schools* in the Tri-borough area, in order to reach all pupils and provide them with access to high-quality music education opportunities.

(2) to *raise standards* and support musical progression for all pupils.

This is supported by the overarching themes of all TBMH provision, as stated in our [Music Strategy](#): **Engaging; Inspiring; High Quality; Progressive; Sustainable**. The TBMH has a Strategic Partnership with the Royal Albert Hall and the Royal College of Music with both organisations substantially contributing to, and supporting, the music education within the three boroughs. The TBMH works with all our schools including SEN and Alternative Provision settings.