

The Cluster Coordinator role

Background

Musical Clusters are mini Hubs – bringing together musical communities at a more localised level – schools, tutors, venues, organisations / societies – a range of people and settings in which musical learning can take place.

The aim is to improve children's progress and engagement through:

1. Educators' increased skills, knowledge and confidence at providing musical learning in their setting.
2. Access to a wider range of opportunities, experiences and resources.

We contract part time Cluster Coordinator roles to help pull people and ideas together and to gather information. As Clusters develop we find that we target our support more effectively.

Working *primarily* within their cluster areas, Coordinators achieve the above aim by delivering the following:

Build an evolving profile of young people's musical activity in their area - gathering and sharing data within their cluster area and identifying priorities for development as well as feeding back information to the centre from where county priorities can be identified.

- This is primarily achieved through a cycle of annual visits / audits of schools using a toolkit developed and updated by contracted Coordinators and our team.
- School visits / audits take up 33-50% of a coordinator's contracted time.

Encourage and advocate for a broad range of musical opportunities in terms of both participation and progression, drawing upon advice / support from our team, SEND Advocates, Singing and First Access Champions.

Identify particular needs in terms of provision and or CPD at cluster level and feed in back into the wider county picture. You will have access to a small 'kickstart' budget for some localised CPD activity (approx. £500) and a project fund (approx.£1000).

Bring together a range of individuals and organisations from the area and encourage the sharing of expertise, skills, resources and opportunities through networking / meetings / case studies / evaluations / communications including social media.

Specification for the contract holder:

Essential

- A clear understanding of the value of music and its benefits for children and young people.
- An ability to bring people together *and to encourage productive sharing and discussion of music related issues.*
- Ability to support and challenge peers and colleagues – *many of whom may be more 'expert' than you* – and demonstrate Leadership without Authority.
- Knowledge of schools and the education context and an ability to recognise good and outstanding music provision in different settings.
- Well organised and efficient person, confident in their own abilities and able to meet deadlines.
- Good IT skills and own IT
- Good communication skills with ability to engage a range stakeholders - *differing types and status - parents, pupils, colleagues in schools, partner organisations.*
- Ability to 'read' data and information and evaluate progress against targets and agreed 'measures'.
- Ability to project manage.

Desirable

- Potential to deliver some aspects of CPD – *e.g: areas of music practice, assessment, evaluation, mentoring.*
- Ability to deliver some aspects of musical teaching – *though this is not envisaged as being part of the role*
- Curriculum and / or 'alternative' curriculum knowledge.

Please note: As a contractor, you would be expected take responsibility for your own tax and NI. You would also be required to have appropriate Public Liability Insurance.

FAQs

How much time do I have and when does the work need to be done?

The number of days allocated to each Cluster Coordinator contract is linked to the number of schools in the cluster's catchment. The average contract is around 15 days p/a. Within agreed milestones which are outlined in the contract and understanding the availability of stakeholders, you can undertake the work as and when suits you.

- We expect meetings to be reasonably spread across the academic year
- We have deadlines for submitting data and information gathered from schools across the year.
- We organise periodic get-togethers for contracted Coordinators to share experiences.

Please note: This contract will not work for anyone hoping to do all the work in an intense block. It requires someone able to keep an eye on things reasonably regularly.

What other support is provided by Wiltshire Music Connect?

A relationship with a designated manager in the Wiltshire Music Connect team. Induction into the organisation and Cluster approach, Access to Wiltshire Music Connect's database information and Mailchimp account.

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