

Secondary School Music Funding 2024-25

The logo for Wiltshire Music Connect, featuring the text "wiltshire music connect" in white lowercase letters on a red rectangular background.

In response to the National Plan for Music Education, Wiltshire Music Connect wants to help Secondary Schools make a real step-change in how music is delivered and valued. We are making a new one-off funding opportunity available specifically for secondary school music departments for the academic year 2024-25.

Local authority funded secondary schools and academies in Wiltshire can apply for up to £1,000 to support one, or both, of the following:

- Addressing aims and objectives identified in your school's Music Development Plan
- Increasing the uptake of music at KS4 and/or KS5.

The money can be spent on skills development, participatory work, outside expertise or anything else that you genuinely feel will make a big and lasting difference to how music is delivered in your school. *(Please see full details of what we can and cannot fund below).*

Perhaps you want to try something new to boost KS4 take-up? Maybe you have a great idea for encouraging Year 7s to continue with the music-making they started at primary school? Perhaps you want to start a new school choir, orchestra or ensemble? You might even want to explore how you can work in partnership with a music department at another school. Whatever your idea, we want to hear it.

How do I apply?

8 th April – 24 th June 2024	Have an initial discussion with one of the team members at Wiltshire Music Connect. To arrange this please email: Sophie.amstell@wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk
By Monday 24 th June 2024	Complete an online application form. The link will be sent to you after your initial conversation.
By Monday 8 th July 2024	Find out if your project/activity has been approved.
Monday 15 th July, 12.30-4.30pm	Attend our Secondary Connect CPD Event in Warminster where you will have the opportunity to fine-tune your ideas for the project / activity with peers and members of the Wiltshire Music Connect team.
Tuesday 16 th July 2024	Final funding agreements sent out.
Mid-August 2024	Funds released to schools.

Detailed Guidelines

- Our funding cannot be used for anything that the school already has a statutory obligation to provide.
- There is no requirement for match funding unless you are applying for instruments / equipment (see below.)
- We will *consider* requests from schools wishing to use the funding to purchase instruments or equipment but only if it supports a strategic development in your school. This funding is not designed to cover the cost of replacing/upgrading your existing music equipment.
- We can only fund 50% of the full cost of instruments / equipment – schools will need to fund the remaining 50% from existing school budgets or alternative sources.
- This is a one-off funding opportunity and it is open to any state funded secondary school in Wiltshire. You can apply even if your school has received other funding from Wiltshire Music Connect in the past 12 months.
- We already provide subsidies for First Access (Whole Class Instrumental lessons), and Instrumental and Vocal tuition and so this fund cannot be used to pay for those activities unless you are making strategic developments in these areas.
- You must be able to demonstrate and measure outcomes. Priority will be given to activity with the potential for lasting or sustainable impact. For example, you might create new partnerships and links, or test a new model which could be replicated by other schools in the future.
- The fund aims to invest in new ways of working with potential for future sustainability, and is not intended to create reliance on repeat funding from Wiltshire Music Connect.