

The importance of music during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond – guidance for Associates

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The Covid-19 pandemic presents huge challenges to all of us and will for some time to come. We know it has had a dramatic impact on your life, work and business as it has for schools and all families.

But music is as important as ever to the lives of children and young people.

You all know that music can:

- increase confidence and self-esteem
- improve health and wellbeing
- provide important life and social skills
- develop creativity and self-expression
- improve cognition, literacy and numeracy
- be the key to unlocking potential

Nobody should expect a swift return to business as usual – **we need to continue to adapt for a different normal**. As schools are encouraged to get their curriculum (including music and the arts) back on track you need to make it easy for schools and customers to choose *you*.

This guidance sheet sets out some of the key things that **you** can do to deliver music differently at the moment and ensure that it doesn't disappear from children and young people's lives.

Please stay involved with our campaign!

#DontDropMusic

If we all continue to do it, we can create momentum!



What you can do:

Communicate with schools, colleagues and parents/carers

- **Make sure you're in touch with your schools' music lead(s).**
- **Find out if the school has new policies and practices** that you need to be aware of and to which you may need to adapt – these may be evolving over some time.
- **Provide info to your schools about your offer for them to send out to families** including new pupils joining the school.
- **Think about how you can help others to promote you and vice versa.** Provide info to your schools about your offer for them to send out to families including new pupils joining the school.
- **Consider how / where you could adapt your models / approaches (including online resources) to cope with the different 'normal'** and how that will help meet what the school can manage and pupils need.
- **Make sure that your profile on our online Directory is up-to-date** particularly in terms of the new Online Tuition status and Clusters. **Login here.**
- **Liaise with other tutors working in the same schools** and explore ways you might collaborate to make choices simpler for schools and pupils e.g. shared PDF's of profiles / offers.
- **If you want to know which other Associates are teaching in the same schools as you, please ask us.**

Signpost pupils to our financial support

Our tuition subsidy allocation will be increased where possible and within realistic parameters as we need to consider how we manage expectation for tuition support with limited funds in subsequent years.

Stay involved in our campaign

- **Help to protect a highly skilled workforce.**
- **Even if you're not looking for more work or new pupils please stay involved with our campaign!**
- **Use social media** and share / retweet / favourite / like any posts with the campaign hashtag **#DontDropMusic**

If we all continue to do it, we can create momentum!

Read our bulletins and share our resources and calls to action promoting availability of Associates for schools & pupils to colleagues, families and pupils.

Pupil safety

If you are continuing to teach online, or planning to, make sure you **use and refer to the guidance / framework for online Safeguarding** developed by us and approved by Wiltshire Council. Detailed **here**

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