

Wiltshire Music Connect Development Fund Criteria 2024

Applications will be accepted and assessed on a rolling basis between Tuesday 14 May 2024 and 12 noon on Friday 21 June 2024. Early applications are advised.

This fund aims to help you meet the cost of trying something new or extending your existing music provision, skills, and experience. This could include funding projects with longer-term potential.

It relates to activity which will enter its planning phase during the current academic year, and which will either be completed by 31 August 2024 (for summer holiday projects) or completed by 31 December 2024.

You will need to provide an outline of your proposal including aims and objectives, how you will measure how well you meet these, and forecast data (relevant numbers, quantities, statistics). You will need to be prepared to report back on these if your application is successful.

This is project-based funding and can only result in a one-off grant.

IMPORTANT: This fund relates to the local authority area of Wiltshire. This does not include Swindon.

A. Who can apply and for how much? *(Section 2.1 and 3 of the application form + separate budget sheet)*

This fund is open to **Associates** who are active in providing musical opportunities for young people in Wiltshire.

- You can apply for **up to £500 without the requirement of any additional funds.**
- You can apply for **between £500 and £1,000** if you are able to demonstrate a minimum of 25% match funding/income as part of the **total cost** of the application. *(For example, an application for a project costing £1,000 to deliver would need at least £250 funding/income from another source to match a £750 grant from us.)*

Please note that you cannot use other Wiltshire Music Connect funds as match funding (e.g. our School Music Development Fund).

Applications are limited to one per individual Associate / Associate organisation.

If your project involves working with a school, we will need to understand how the project contributes to the schools' improvement plan or subject development plan. Schools benefitting from Associates who are successful in securing this funding will be required to complete a **School Participation Agreement** ensuring commitment to the work from school leadership.

B. What we will fund (Section 2.2 and 2.3 of the application form)

Participatory music-based activity or projects for children / young people.

- Projects / activity must benefit children and young people in Wiltshire aged up to 18.
- Music must be a significant element of the activity / project. The project can involve other art / media forms and subjects, but we can *only* fund the musical aspects.
- Funding can be used for any element of a music project; however, we will not fund applications that are dominated by equipment and / or transport costs.

This fund is not for Associates' professional development / training which is covered by a separate [Associate CPD Bursary Fund](#).

In your application, you will need to forecast participation-related numbers that are relevant to your activity. These include things such as (but not exclusively):

- Participatory sessions (and duration)
- Events
- Direct participants and their age ranges (and the number of them who may be disadvantaged, e.g. Pupil Premium, SEND)
- Indirect participants (e.g. audiences) and their age ranges
- Music leaders / tutors / teachers / practitioners involved and / or trained
- Schools and / or other providers involved
- Schools attended by participating pupils

We will be *particularly* interested in applications which address one or more of the following developmental priorities or areas identified through our needs analysis:

- Equity, diversity and inclusion
- Creative music-making / song writing / composition as part of expanding musical opportunity
- Embracing the potential of digital and web
- Addressing a clear gap in the availability of quality musical holiday activities
- Activities exploring the Climate Crisis

Examples of the sorts of projects we are interested in can be found below in Section D.

C. How to apply

You can access the application form and budget sheet on our [website here](#). There shouldn't be anything on the application form that hasn't been flagged up in this document.

Remember the final closing date is **12 noon on Friday 21st June**. Applications will be accepted and assessed on a rolling basis from Tuesday 14 May 2024.

Though not an essential part of your application, once you've read the criteria and application form, we would **strongly advise you** to discuss your application with a member of the Hub team before submitting. To arrange this please email info@wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk with a couple of sentences about your proposed application and a member of the team will get back to you. (Don't leave this until the last minute before the deadline!)

If you are applying for a participatory project in a specific location in Wiltshire, we may ask the local Music Cluster Co-ordinator for any comments. You can find Cluster Co-ordinator contacts and details of Cluster networking meeting [here](#).

- **Applications will be screened for eligibility.** Responses to some questions will determine an application's eligibility, and ineligible applications will be rejected. Please note that unless you submit a full and complete application by the deadline, our team cannot assess it and it will be rejected.
- **Eligible applications will be scored and assessed by a small panel** drawn together by Wiltshire Music Connect. Panel members will be required to declare any potential conflicts of interest or partiality.
- **The 'weight' of particular questions on the application form will be indicated.**
- **Decisions will be made based on the quality of applications and also the range / balance / location** of the different activity that can be supported in each funding round.
- **All applicants will be informed of decisions relating to their applications in a timely manner.** Should funding not be awarded, this will include constructive feedback within our team's capacity.
- As this fund is only open to Associates for Wiltshire Music Connect (who have therefore met Safeguarding criteria), **no further Safeguarding or referee information is necessary at this stage.** However, if the project does not fit within your normal safeguarding arrangements and risk assessments, please tell us how you will update them in Section 4 of the application form.

D. Examples of the sorts of things we'd like to support

Summer or other holiday projects

- Addressing a clear gap (geographical / age range / genre etc.) in the availability of quality musical holiday activities
- Underpinning the development of new and potentially longer-term offers for holiday period activities with sustainable economic models
- Ensuring that some places in holiday activities are available at reduced costs for disadvantaged learners

Activities exploring The Climate Crisis

- **Operational** – trialling new / different approaches which have the potential to reduce the impact of your work (in or out of school) on the environment, such as:
 - adjustments to timetabling to reduce the number of visits and amount of travel, developing a blend of face-to-face and virtual teaching
 - the different use of equipment
 - the provision of some resources electronically rather than on paper
- **Creative** – raising awareness / understanding of Climate Crisis issues through:
 - the creation of pieces of music, songs, or soundtracks that can be shared within and beyond your school and community
 - putting on a climate-friendly music performance event

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