

Digital Music Lab



Building confidence and self-belief through music for those who are struggling in school



A 10-week digital music and creativity programme to engage students at risk of low attainment and/or those with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Our work in APSs and in Hospital Education across Gloucestershire is proving that music is an effective way to engage and build confidence in young people who struggle with learning, behaviour, and poor mental health.

We're now extending this work and are looking for more school partners

Students will gain new skills that will be practically useful to them, and will build their confidence, self-belief, and engagement in learning by exploring their own interests and passions for music, film, gaming or other creative areas of their life.

"Music technology is particularly good for engaging young people who are switched off from learning. The staff have a way of working with even the most anxious pupils that brings out the best in them – and inspire them to aim higher. They're very professional – collaborative, thoughtful and reliable. They really care about the outcomes for each pupil and this helps to produce great results."

Annalise Price-Thomas, Head of Service, Gloucestershire Hospital Education Service

Outcomes:

- improved attendance, confidence, self-belief, motivation as a result of ...
- self-expression and a sense of achievement in areas that are meaningful to them
- Discover and Explore Arts Award for those who wish to achieve accreditation (Bronze over a longer period)
- impact and outcomes fully evaluated and reported

Cost: £500 / £50 per weekly session (usual price £1,000 / £100 per session without subsidy)

This covers: one hour delivery per week, additional time for set up/breakdown/liason with teachers and feedback/reflection, project management, evaluation and all other expenses eg travel costs.

Transforming lives through music.

Gloucestershire Music Makers trading as The Music Works. Registered office: Box Hedge Cottage, Horsley, GL6 0PP.
Registered in England & Wales with company registration number: 5195345. Registered charity number: 1106979.

info@themusicworks.org.uk
www.themusicworks.org.uk

Programme outline

"My concentration skills are better now, and I'm much happier. I really enjoy it and now I'm doing my main Arts Award. He helps me write songs, I can never find words and the words that come out are really bad, but ... he's helped my confidence a lot."

Female student who had been experiencing bullying at school.

"I wrote a beat and a rap, and I liked it ... we used the Apple Mac, iPad, microphone and piano. The week before ... I only did a bit of the beat, but this week, I feel more confident. I know I got a bit like, stressed out ... but when you actually hear it, it sounds alright."

Male student at a special school for students with social, emotional and mental health needs

What students will do:

- create and record music in genres/styles chosen by them, often involving urban, rap, rock, pop; building digital creative and organisational skills
- use computers, tablets, voices and available instruments
- work in small groups (up to six) or one-to-one through a music mentoring approach
- work with music leaders who are highly trained in working alongside students who are experiencing challenging circumstances. Our approach is based on informal music education, social pedagogy, and a 'whole person' focusing on social and personal outcomes through music

Skills they'll gain:

- collaboration – sharing opinions, listening to others, taking turns, working together
- organisation and self-development – planning, documenting, reviewing, reflecting, adapting
- digital creativity – which might include photo manipulation, blogging
- music production - how to use GarageBand and Logic Pro to arrange, create, mix, edit and record music (including picking up or developing fundamental music skills such as – rhythm and timing, creating melodies)
- self-expression and literacy – singing, songwriting, rapping/spoken word, acapella
- experience of a music/arts work setting – visiting a venue/studio to experience what it's like to work there, talk to those involved

- passing on skills – picking a skill from previous weeks to teach to others in the group (planning, documenting and reviewing)
- event management – planning and running a sharing/performance event

What they'll receive:

- their own 'mixtape' of favourite music
- music tracks they have created and recorded
- documented learning – photos, written work, video, blogs, audio recordings - as appropriate
- footage of their sharing event (photo, video, audio)
- advice and signposting for further progression routes
- in some cases, Arts Award 'Discover and Explore' – or if the programme is extended, Bronze Award

To enquire about being one of the two schools to take part contact:

aholford@themusicworks.org.uk

**Find out more about
The Music Works on our
new website:**

www.themusicworks.org.uk

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