

Monday 18th May 2020

Dear Headteachers and School Music Leaders,

We are acutely aware of the severe pressures faced by all schools in the present situation and we understand that discussing music education may not be high on your list of priorities right now. Whatever happens with schools resuming and the exact date when this happens, it is clear that the next academic year will be unique and present new challenges. However, the TBMH is fully confident we can build on our work this term and provide high-quality provision for your pupils next academic year, whatever form that may take. With current challenges in mind, we have modified our published 2020-21 Music Hub SLA to reflect the best ways we can work with you and your school community.

The Tri-borough Music Hub is your local Music Education Hub and is here to support every state-maintained school and academy across our three Local Authority areas. We are able to offer totally FREE services to every school through our FREE Bronze Membership scheme and would like to take this opportunity to present a clear picture for you. In addition, we will explain how we are tweaking our SLA offer to adapt to the current pressures and upcoming challenges facing school leaders.

FREE services via Bronze Membership

The TBMH aims for all schools to be Bronze members unless they opt out. It is totally free – all we need is for your school to complete a simple [FORM](#) giving us some basic information. After that, we will then liaise with your named staff member to provide opportunities that will support your school community. More details about the membership programme are [HERE](#) listing the free access to CPD, performance events etc.

FREE Licence for Whole Class Instrumental Learning

The TBMH will provide a FREE lifetime licence for one of our Whole Class Instrumental Learning resources from the Groove'n'Play series (KS1-3). This license allows each school to deliver the programme themselves. We will also provide free online CPD for one teacher and a hard copy of the programme resource (training will take place in the week of 13th July, sign-up [HERE](#)). This is worth £200 to the school (£150 for the license, and £50 for the CPD). The resource will be provided following attendance at CPD. More details are in the main SLA Document [FOUND HERE](#).

Flexibility within the SLA

In order to give schools maximum flexibility over finances and the unknowns of the coming months, for the 2020-21 academic year:

- we are changing the notice period in our SLA when schools have booked instrumental, vocal or curriculum provision. Schools will now be able to book term by term, instead of signing up to a whole academic year. We ask that schools inform us by the end of each half-term if they wish to stop any activity the following term.
- we are extending the SLA submission date to **Monday 8th June**. We will do our very best to meet all requests within timeframes.
- we are giving schools the option to book musical SLA activity to start either in September, October, November (after half-term), or January 2021. This will allow for the potential of changeable guidance from Government.

Hybrid Models of Musical Learning

- Some schools will wish to retain in-person music teaching via the SLA, particularly when having one fixed TBMH tutor in school for a half/full-day. We will work with each school to establish health and safety protocols around how this will work.
- For schools that wish to consider alternate options, as with the current summer term, we will be extending and expanding our online digital hybrid models for instrumental/vocal teaching. TBMH



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tutors are now fully trained and experienced in delivering online teaching via our fully secure Zoom Education account for individual, and paired lessons.

- In addition to this, schools may wish to signpost their pupils to access our new Virtual Music School (VMS). The VMS has over 600 resources for instrumentalists and vocalists to help support their musical learning, and is being added to every week. It has an in-depth range of video tutorials and accompanying PDF guides, MP3s, worksheets and aural practice guides. There is a £25 termly charge (per pupil) for subscription with 50% off for those eligible for remissions.

For more details about any of this or to discuss 2020-21 SLA requirements, please contact Jane.DaCosta@rbkc.gov.uk and MusicSLA@triboroughmusicclub.org

Performances

Until further notice, our performance programme is on hold. We will only reinstate performances when it is safe to do so for all involved. This means that we may either shift some planned events to later in the academic year, move them online in a digital format, if appropriate, and/or suspend them for the 2020-21 academic year. We will keep schools updated.

Summary

Considering the Covid-19 situation, we want to provide our young people with some sense of normality and continuity, and music remains an excellent vehicle for bringing people together. Music and arts will be a positive part of a recovery curriculum. We hope that we will retain the support of our community of schools and that we can continue to work together to move forward through these difficult times.

The team and I are here should you wish to talk about any aspect of music education for your school.

With thanks,

Stuart
Head TBMH



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