



NEW PARTNERSHIP BRINGS MUSICAL ENRICHMENT TO 250K CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (FOR RELEASE 7 MAY 2024)

A newly formed London West Music Hub (LWMH) will educate and enrich the lives of over 250,000 children and young people across the West London boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Kensington and Chelsea, and Westminster, with The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea appointed as the lead organisation by Arts Council England. It forms part of an ambitious national programme to provide high-quality music education for all children and young people. A DfE grant of £2.8m will be allocated across the LWMH. The combined area covers 121 square miles. The statistical context across the LWMH shows that 27 per cent of pupils receive free school meals, 52 per cent have English as an Additional Language, 5 per cent have an Education and Health Care Plan, and 11 per cent are in receipt of special educational needs support.

The changes have come about following a change of policy by Arts Council England and DfE which will see music hubs operate across larger geographic areas. The collective vision is that **“The London West Music Hub is a consortium of five music services covering seven Local Authorities working together to maximise the music education potential of all young people in West London by turning opportunities into meaningful pathways through connected partnerships.”** An additional £700k grant will allow the new partnership hub to invest in musical instruments, equipment and technology tailored to the needs of children and young people in West London, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.

Stuart Whatmore, Head Tri-borough Music Hub and Strategic Lead for London West Music Hub said: “Through detailed and collegiate discussions over the past few months between the current Heads of the 5 existing music services and their Local Authorities, we are looking forward to working together to connect the opportunities in our part of London.”

The London West Music Hub, led by RBKC, will oversee the delivery and accessibility of high-quality music education accessible to all children and young people in West London through diverse partnerships between educational, creative and community organisations, in their local communities and throughout the country. The LWMH will aim to ensure that music provision opportunities are accessible to all 485 schools and all 246,364 pupils across the seven local authorities through a range of in-house delivery and partnership working.



The newly formed London West Music Hub is part of a major investment in a new generation of the nationwide network of Music Hubs. This investment will help to deliver the Government’s National Plan for Music Education and give all children and young people the opportunity to develop their musical interests as far as they wish, including helping them to begin careers in the music industry.

Darren Henley, Chief Executive of Arts Council England, said: "Music education is enormously powerful – it can enrich young people's lives, help them connect with the people around them, and start them on the pathway to fruitful and fulfilling careers. We are excited to announce this investment in a new generation of Music Hubs, which will support the brilliant work of our dedicated music teachers across the country, and help bring high-quality music education to even more children and young people in every part of England."

Michelle Walker, London Area Director, Arts Council England, said: "We're thrilled to be continuing to work with the Department for Education on this refreshed National Plan for Music Education. As part of our revised programme, each of our new London-based Music Hubs will ensure that children in the capital continue to have access to amazing musical equipment and worldclass creative opportunities, maintaining London's reputation as a musical trailblazer and nurturing the next generation of the capital’s musicians."

For more information please contact: musichub@rbkc.gov.uk

Brent Music Service	Ealing Music Service	Harrow Music Service	Hillingdon Music Service	Tri-borough Music Hub
X/Twitter - @BrentMusicServ	X/Twitter: @EalingMusic	Facebook – harrowmusicservice	X/Twitter: @MusicHillingdon	X/Twitter – @TBMHMusic
Instagram - @brentmusicserv	YouTube: ealingmusicservice		Facebook: Hillingdon Music Hub	Instagram – triboroughmusichub
YouTube: Brent Music Service -	Facebook: WeAreEMS			Facebook – TriBoroughMusicHub

Notes to Editors

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in [Let's Create](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/lets-create) that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision.

www.artscouncil.org.uk.