

# Music Matters!



MK Music Hub Newsletter - Spring 2016

Issue 1

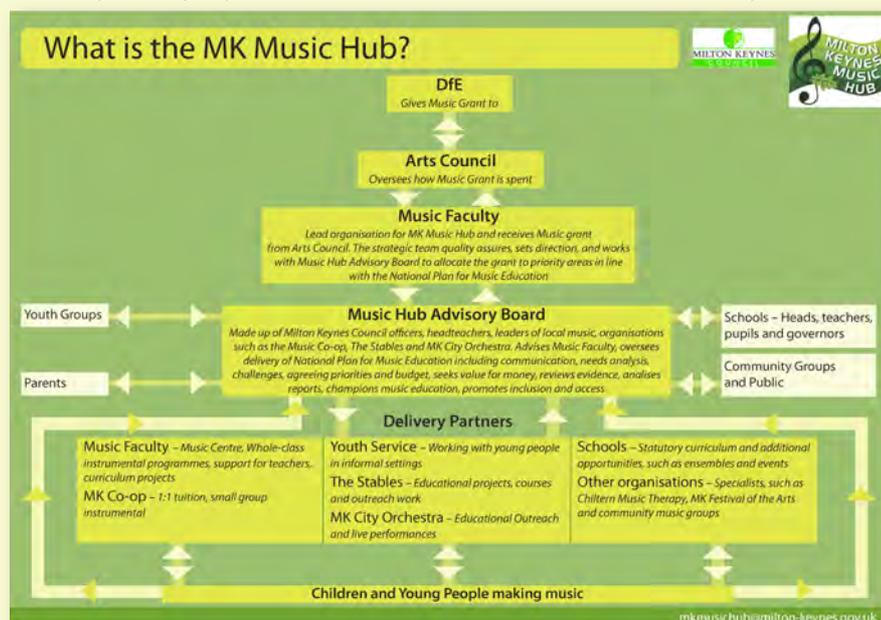
Welcome to the first-ever edition of the Milton Keynes Music Hub Newsletter – ‘MUSIC MATTERS!’ The newsletter is aimed at a wide range of people interested in making music and finding out how to get involved - children and young people, schools, parents and teachers, music educators and community organisations involved in music education. The newsletter will be published on a termly basis and will be a mix of news about events, what is happening and opportunities for making music. It's also a source of finding out what local music organisations are doing and where to go for training.

## What is the MK Music Hub?

The MK Music Hub is funded by the Department for Education to deliver the National Plan for Music Education for children and young people between the ages of 5-18. This includes supporting instrumental teaching, ensuring there are opportunities for young people play in groups, providing and signposting training for anyone involved in teaching music to children and young people as well as providing low-cost instrumental hire and high-quality music events.

The Music Hub consists of partner organisations such as Community Learning MK: Music Faculty (which is the lead organisation) , MK Music Co-op, The Stables, Youth Service, MK City Orchestra and schools.

This diagram highlights the relationship between all the different organisations



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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



# FOCUS ON



Music Centre Belgium Tour 2014

## MK Music Centre

Consisting of over 30 groups MK Music Centre is aimed at anyone interested in making music. With groups starting for 2 year olds up to anyone of school age and even adults there are orchestras, rock bands, choirs, brass bands, percussion groups and so much more. Every 2 years there is a tour for anyone at grade 5+ standard. For further details contact [music@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:music@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or phone **01908 253520**.



Music Centre students in a side-by-side concert with members of the MK City Orchestra

## Professional Partner

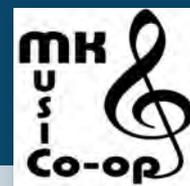


The Professional Partner scheme supports high quality instrumental teaching in Milton Keynes. The Music Hub provides training to enable instrumental teachers to develop and improve their practice. Becoming a Professional Partner encourages teachers to review their own teaching and network with other teachers.

Instrumental teachers interested in finding out more can visit the Music Hub website <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/mk-music-hub>

It's FREE to join and you'll get a chance to meet with other teachers through regular meetings and training.

## PARTNERS OF THE HUB



### The MK Music Co-op

Milton Keynes Music Co-operative is a not-for-profit association of self-employed specialist music teachers. It provides a wide range of instrumental and vocal tuition in the Milton Keynes area, working in many local schools, as well as providing out-of-school tuition to both young people and adults. Its aim is to develop each pupil's musical potential according to their individual needs and aspirations. Teacher members are DBS checked and are provided with regular CPD training.

For further details contact [www.mkmusiccoop.com](http://www.mkmusiccoop.com), phone **01908 699052** or email [mkmusiccoop@gmail.com](mailto:mkmusiccoop@gmail.com)

# SCHOOL MUSIC



*Priory Rise Primary School receiving the Quality Music Mark*

## Primary Schools Quality Mark

Congratulations to Priory Rise Primary School on becoming the first school in Milton Keynes to achieve this award! Designed to recognise an excellent music education the school was recently presented with the award by Damian Iorio, conductor of the Milton Keynes City Orchestra and concert pianist Giulio Biddau.

Any schools interested in finding out more can find details at <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/mk-music-hub/schools>

## Singing Playgrounds

Working in partnership with Ex-Cathedra Community Learning MK Music Faculty has organised this ongoing project which aims to develop children as singing leaders within their schools and to offer singing games as a way of developing children's personal and social skills. The schools that are taking part are Emerson Valley, Loughton Manor First, Loughton, Oldbrook, St Mary Magdalene and Tickford Park.



*Pupils from the six schools learning songs and games to teach other children*

About the training day, Varsha a pupil in year 4 says, "I like being a song leader because everyone is joining in and has got a big smile. I really enjoyed the training day because there were children from different schools and we all did the songs together."



*Green Park Primary School playing Bollywood Brass music at this year's Primary Schools' Festival.*

## Every child can learn to play a musical instrument

The Music Hub is funded to help schools develop an instrumental programme whereby children can learn to play a musical instrument. Often aimed at whole classes in year 4 pupils various Hub partners such as Community Learning MK Music Faculty offer programmes such as whole-class keyboard, strings, woodwind and even Bollywood Brass!

# TEACHERS AND MUSIC EDUCATORS

The Hub offers a range of courses for those that teach music with young people in and out of school. See the 'What's on' section for further details. The lead organisations for the Music Hub, Community Learning MK Music Faculty, runs a Certificate for Music Educators course which has been validated by Trinity College, London. It is mainly an online course with some face-to-face meetings. Written by Gary Spruce of the Open University it covers a range of subjects related to the teaching of music. For further details contact the Music Faculty at [music@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:music@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or look at the MK Council website and find the Music Faculty there.

# Music in the community



Music Hub partner The Stables, held a Folk Music Project for young players over October half term.



Professional folk musicians Luke Daniels, Emma Sweeney and Colm McGonigle worked with the young players over 3 days, to introduce them to a range of traditional instruments, techniques and tunes, and to pull it all together to play as a folk band.

The young players were able to try a range of instruments commonly used in folk music, and learn some of the traditional folk tunes that can be found in different parts of England.

Instruments included the melodeon, harp and penny whistle as well as instruments some of the players were already familiar with, such as violin, but played in a 'folk fiddle' style.

The young players were aged from 9-14 and from different musical backgrounds and different levels of experience, but they were able to come together and perform a set of traditional tunes, some on instruments they had only picked up 3 days before!

Lead artist Luke Daniels said "For many of the players this was the first time they had chance to really explore traditional folk music, but the enthusiasm the players had for trying the new instruments and tunes was fantastic. It shows how young players can really enjoy playing traditional music, that may part of our heritage but is still exciting to play today."

The project was supported by MK Music Hub and was part of The Stables Learning and Participation Programme.

The Stables is keen to hear from any young players who would like to be involved in any future folk music projects or who are interested in playing in groups making different kinds of music including folk, jazz, world music, rock, pop and other styles.

[education@stables.org](mailto:education@stables.org) or [www.stables.org](http://www.stables.org)

## Contact Us

Find out more about the MK Music Hub and what it offers children and young people across MK via its website on [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/mk-music-hub](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/mk-music-hub)

To contact the hub please e-mail [mkmusic@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:mkmusic@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

# What's On in Milton Keynes

## Events

### MK Schools' Young Musician of the Year

Tuesday 9 February

Ousedale Schools Newport Pagnell 6.30pm

Contact the school on 01908 210203

### Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts ... Music Festival

27/28 February

Orchestras and Ensembles - 5 March

School and Community Choirs - 11 March

For further details contact Pat Haig on 01908 504779 or [pat@tscevents.co.uk](mailto:pat@tscevents.co.uk)

### Brass Festival for primary school pupils

Tuesday 22 March

Church of Christ the Cornerstone

Contact your child's school for further information.

### Woodwind Festival for primary school pupils

Wednesday 23 March

Church of Christ the Cornerstone

Contact your child's school for further information.

### String Festival for primary school pupils

Thursday 24 March

Church of Christ the Cornerstone

Contact your child's school for further information.

### Training: (Pre-booking is essential)

For further details contact the Music Faculty at

[music@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:music@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or phone 01908 253520

### Music and Beyond

27 January 2-5pm

A course for primary music teachers covering the links between music and the primary curriculum.

### Promoting Positive Behaviour

9 March 2-5pm

This looks at how to deal with inappropriate behaviours in a musical setting and ways to structure activities to motivate and inspire students.

### The Power of Music

(Conference for teachers and music educators)

Monday 21 March, the Centre, Slough

The Hub is organising coach travel. Please contact the Music Faculty. For details of how to book a place at the conference contact [www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk](http://www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk)

### Springboards

13 April 2-5pm

Developing a holistic approach to creative composition with primary school children.

### Excellence in Instrumental and Vocal Teaching

14 July 10-4pm

Aimed at anyone that teaches a musical instrument to individuals or small groups this course looks at different strategies to motivate pupils in a variety of settings.



Available in audio, large print, braille and other languages

01908 253520

Milton Keynes Council  
Music Faculty

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