

School Music Bulletin - Issue 5

Top Tip: Give Students the Stage in Assemblies!

Providing performing opportunities in school assemblies is a powerful way to nurture young musicians. Here's why it matters:

- **Builds Confidence** – Performing in front of peers helps students develop self-assurance and resilience.
- **Fosters Respect and School Culture** – Showcasing music in assemblies promotes appreciation for creativity and strengthens a sense of community.
- **Creates Real Audiences** – Students experience the thrill of sharing their talent with a live audience, which is essential for musical growth.
- **Establishes Positive Routines** – Regular performance slots make music a visible and valued part of school life.

Start small—solo performances or a band piece—and watch how it transforms both the performers and the school atmosphere. **Sally Nicholson**

Sally is the Faculty Leader for Creative and Performing Arts and Subject Lead for Music at Haileybury Turnford. She completed an MA in Music Education, researching creativity in composing at KS3. Sally presented her MA research at the Music and Drama Expo 2024 and has presented the research at various other events. She is currently undertaking doctoral research with Birmingham City University and is furthering her research into creativity and composing with the focus now on KS4. As part of her wider role at Haileybury Turnford, Sally mentors ECT's and ITT's across a variety of subjects and has been an ECT Facilitator for Alban Teaching School Hub. Sally has completed the NPQSL qualification

[Lead School Contact Form – Fill in form](#)

Upcoming Events

SEND Music Networking

4th February, 3:45 – 4:45 PM, Online

Booking: [SEND Music Networking – Fill in form](#)

Hosted by: Matthew Dear and Rebecca Starling

This session is designed for colleagues working in SEND settings or supporting inclusive music-making. It's a great opportunity to collaborate, share ideas, and plan exciting joint projects that celebrate musical diversity.

Adrian Price who runs Soundbeam will be doing an online demo for us. It will be a great opportunity to see it in action and ask Adrian any questions. [Soundbeam 6 — Soundbeam](#)**Booking:** [SEND Music Networking – Fill in form](#)

Networking for Primary Generalist Teachers Leading Music

11th Feb, 3.30-4.30pm, Online

Booking: [Networking for Primary Generalist Teachers Leading Music – Fill in form](#)

Hosted by: Grace Hawksbee – Primary Generalist Teacher Leading Music

This session is designed for primary school teachers who teach across multiple subjects and take on the responsibility of leading music without formal specialist training. The aim is

to create a supportive space for sharing experiences, challenges, and practical strategies for delivering engaging music lessons.

What to Expect:

Networking: Connect with other teachers in similar roles.

Resource Sharing: Explore ideas, tools, and approaches that make music teaching more accessible and enjoyable.

Confidence Building: Learn tips to feel more comfortable and effective when leading music in your classroom.

Discussion: Identify common challenges and brainstorm solutions together.

Why Attend:

Whether you're looking for inspiration, practical advice, or simply a community of peers who are in a similar position to you and understand your unique role, this meeting is an opportunity to collaborate and grow.

Booking: [Networking for Primary Generalist Teachers Leading Music – Fill in form](#)

EY Music Networking

Tuesday 24th February, 4:00 – 5:00 PM, Online

Booking: [Early Years Music Network \(2\) – Fill in form](#)

Hosted by: Sarah Todd and Tom Robinson

This session focuses on **musical skills and the development of key language capacities** in early years. Discover how music can strengthen children's early communication skills, including grammar and phonological awareness, and explore research on how singing supports memory and language acquisition.

We'll share practical strategies for integrating music into everyday classroom routines to boost language and vocabulary development.

Booking: [Early Years Music Network \(2\) – Fill in form](#)

Royal Ballet & Opera 'Create and Sing' CPD Day - 23/04/26

Woolenwick Infant & Nursery School will be hosting Royal Ballet Opera's 'Create and Sing' CPD day on Thursday 23rd April 2026 and we'd love you to attend.

Here are some more details:

The FREE 'Create and Sing' CPD day is taking place on **Thursday 23rd April 2026 at Woolenwick Infant and Nursery School, Bridge Rd W, Stevenage SG1 2NU.**

The Royal Ballet & Opera Schools programme is free, award-winning, and national curriculum-led.

Create & Sing (KS1-KS2) offers an accessible approach that combines singing and drama to build students self-expression, creative collaboration, performance confidence, voice, movement, and memory skills. It is designed for schools to embed into existing music curricula.

It features:

- in person, full day, certified CPD training, suitable for class teachers or Music Leads - no experience of opera or singing is needed.

- comprehensive classroom resources, including 5 lesson schemes of work [Explore resources](#)
- termly digital live lessons (suitable for KS1&2), featuring dancers from the Royal Ballet [Find out more](#)

Here's the booking link:

[https://www.rbo.org.uk/schools/resource/primary-sing-hertfordshire-spring-26?utm_source=database&utm_medium=email%C2%A0&utm_campaign=25 26 cpd events partnerships&utm_content=cpd_primary_sing_hertfordshire](https://www.rbo.org.uk/schools/resource/primary-sing-hertfordshire-spring-26?utm_source=database&utm_medium=email%C2%A0&utm_campaign=25%2026%20cpd%20events%20partnerships&utm_content=cpd_primary_sing_hertfordshire)

Stay Connected

Lead Schools for Music

Have a Question for a Lead School?

If you would like to:

- Ask a question
- Arrange a face-to-face or online meeting
- Schedule a phone call
- Organise a school visit

...with one of our [Lead Schools for Music](#), simply complete the **Request Form**. Once submitted, the Lead School will contact you directly to arrange the next steps.

Complete the Request Form [Lead School Contact Form – Fill in form](#)

You can book a time to meet with our **Head of Participation and School Music**, using the Outlook function [Book time with Christina Luchies](#) or email Christina.Luchies@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Spring 2026 CPD & Networking Events

We warmly invite all music educators across Hertfordshire to take part in any of our sessions. You are welcome to attend as many sessions as you wish, and there is no limit on the number of staff members from your school who may join—everyone is encouraged to get involved.

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Topic	Booking Link
4 Feb	3:45 - 4:45 PM	SEND Music Network	Online	Joint schools' concerts planning, Sound Sensations Update	SEND Music Network (2) – Fill in form
11 Feb	3.30- 4.30pm	Primary Network	Online	Networking opportunity for Generalist primary teacher leading music	Networking for Primary Generalist Teachers Leading Music – Fill in form
24 Feb	4:00 - 5:00 PM	EYFS Music Network	Online	Musical skills & language development	Early Years Music Network (2) – Fill in form
4 Mar	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Secondary Music Network Mid, South and West	Online	GCSE and KS4/5 Composition and moderation The future of A-Level Music	Mid, South and West Secondary Music Network (2) – Fill in form
4 Mar	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Secondary Music Network East	Online	Boys engagement with music	East Secondary Music Network (2) – Fill in form

17 Mar	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Primary Music Network East	Haileybury Turnford School	Practical session with rhythm work, notation and singing	East Primary Music Network (2) – Fill in form
18 Mar	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Primary Music Network North	The Priory School	Baseline continuation & starting ensembles	North Primary Music Network (2) – Fill in form
26 Mar	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	SEND Joint Music CPD	SouthField School	Music for Regulation in Mainstream and SEN settings	School Music CPD - SEND – Fill in form

HFL Foundation subject leaders

We have a comprehensive range of subject leader webinars and courses. Whether you are new to leading a subject or would like a refresher CPD opportunity, there is a webinar for you! All sessions are live online, with a recording available afterwards to everyone who booked.

[Leading Primary Music across your school](#) - Tuesday 10th March 2026, 1-3pm



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