

School Music Bulletin – Issue 14

We are pleased to present you with the latest edition of School Music Bulletin – Issue 14. We welcome any feedback that you may have in terms of content and format, so that we may ensure this communication remains helpful and enlightening. [School Music Bulletin](#)

Top Tip: Executive function & foundational learning skills strengthened through music

“These benefits are not abstract — they translate directly into the foundational skills identified by Ofsted and schools as critical for success.”

Skill Area	Why Music Matters	How Music Strengthens It
Self-Regulation	Essential for emotional readiness, sustained focus and behaviour for learning	Calming musical routines, predictable structures, co-regulation
Reading & Phonological Skills	Vital for decoding, fluency and comprehension	Rhythm–syllable mapping, pitch–phoneme awareness, auditory discrimination
Mathematical Thinking	Supports number sense, pattern recognition and reasoning	Counting beats, recognising patterns, comparing duration and intensity
Spelling	Relies on phoneme–grapheme links and memory for patterns	Repetition of rhythmic and pitch patterns mirrors encoding of spelling patterns
Handwriting / Fine-Motor Control	Requires fine-motor control, rhythm, spatial organisation. Supports accurate handwriting, controlled physical movement and spatial organisation	Steady beat supports writing flow; instrument technique enhances motor memory
Language & Communication	Essential for understanding, interaction core to literacy, vocabulary and expressive language	Singing, call-and-response, rhythmic speech, non-verbal communication
Creative & Compositional Skills	Enhances planning, sequencing and idea development /creative thinking	Creating and structuring musical patterns; collaborative composition
Executive Functioning (Overall)	Underpins reading, writing, maths and behaviour	Structured routines, gradual skill-building, ensemble responsibility
Attention & Focus	Enables engagement, stamina, task completion and learning readiness	Beat-keeping, pattern tracking, sustained listening
Working Memory	Needed for multi-step literacy and numeracy tasks	Remembering rhythms, sequences, lyrics and musical instructions

Inhibitory Control

Helps pupils wait, stop impulsive responses, manage behaviour / self-management

Start/stop cues, structured turn-taking, ensemble discipline

Cognitive Flexibility

Supports problem-solving, adapting strategies and coping with change

Changing tempo, roles, dynamics; improvisation and creative responses

Authored by Schools Newsletter Launch

We're pleased to introduce the new Authored by Schools newsletter; your central hub for sharing news, ideas, and best practice in music education across Hertfordshire.

This first Spring Issue 2026 includes contributions from: Haileybury Turnford, St Albans Girls School, The Sele School, The Valley School, Brookland Junior School and Woolenwick Infant and Nursery School.

Read the full newsletter [here](#).

Celebrating our Early Years Lead School

We're proud to share that our Early Years Lead School, Woolenwick Infants and Nursery School in Stevenage, featured on the cover of *Primary Music Magazine – Music Hubs & Services*, Issue 4 (Spring 2026). The article highlights innovative Early Years practice and showcases high-quality, inclusive musical experiences for our youngest learners. A fantastic recognition of leadership and impact.

[Music Hubs & Services Magazine Issue 4 Spring 2026 by Primary Music Magazine - Issuu](#)

Lead Schools for Music – Support Available

Would you like to:

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

You can connect with one of our **Lead Schools for Music** by completing the request form below. The Lead School will contact you directly to arrange next steps.

 **Lead School Contact Form:** <https://forms.office.com/e/k3MsZFayS4>

Hertfordshire Music Service [new services request form for 2026-27](#).

You can use the [online request form](#) to book new services or change existing provision you have from HMS for next academic year.

Complete your request by **Friday 01 May 2026** for services starting from September 2026.

Upcoming Networking and CPD events

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Topic	Booking Link
12 May	4:00 - 5:00 PM	EYFS Music Network	Woolenwick primary School	Creating inclusive & inspiring music environments	Early Years Music Network – Fill in form
14 May	3:45 - 4:45 PM	SEND Music Network	Online	Cross-curricular links with music, concert updates	SEND Music Network – Fill in form
2 Jun	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Mid, South & West Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network	Watford Boys School	Transition	Mid South & West Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network – Fill in form
4 Jun	4:00 - 5:00 PM	East Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network	Richard Hale School	Transition	East Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network – Fill in form
11 Jun	4:00 - 5:00 PM	North Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network	The Priory School	Transition and Local community engagement	North Joint Primary & Secondary Music Network – Fill in form

Wider Opportunities



RBO 'Create & Sing'
Free Teacher CPD - Hertfordshire
Thursday 23rd April 2026, 9.00 - 15:00
[SIGN UP HERE](#)

Location: Woolenwick Infant & Nursery School, Bridge Road West, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 2NU

This funded CPD is part of Royal Ballet & Opera's award-winning [Create & Sing](#) programme, a curriculum-led teacher development programme designed for teachers (KS1, 2,3 & SEND), music leads, artist facilitators, recent graduates - all who wish to build their confidence in teaching singing - everyone is welcome.



Our team will take you through techniques for teaching singing and drama to build your students' self-expression, creative collaboration, performance confidence, voice, movement, and memory skills.

“The best CPD I’ve ever had. I had such a lovely day, and we are so inspired to go and create in our school.”

During this CPD training, you will:

- Learn practical, easy-to-implement, warm-up and engagement activities.
- Explore the building blocks of dramatic singing and learn how to use them to meet Music curriculum outcomes.
- Discover different creative techniques for using singing across the curriculum e.g. literacy.
- Be introduced to the Create & Sing classroom resources.

Book your place [here](#)

The day is led by a team of Royal Ballet & Opera artists and is suitable for:

- Class teachers or subject leads, artist facilitators, recent graduates
- Those who are new to teaching singing
- Those who are looking to brush up their skills
- No prior knowledge of opera is required!

Watch a video about the CPD [here](#).

RBO Cultural Champions

Are you a teacher in **Hertfordshire**,
looking to enhance the arts, creativity and culture in your school?



Registration is now open for Cultural Champions 26/27.

Cultural Champions is RBO's **FREE**, accredited programme for teachers, supporting them to gain leadership skills, confidence, and strategies to implement **creative and cultural learning** in their classroom, with substantial evidence of impact from over 1,000 educators who have already participated nationally.

The year-long programme is delivered via a range of creative facilitation techniques that deepen reflective practice and incorporates a personalised research initiative that enables Cultural Champions to apply their leadership skills to their current school priorities straight away.

Why become a Cultural Champion?

1. Increased confidence and leadership skills, through an enquiry-led approach.
2. Increased understanding of creative project planning and evaluation to influence whole school change.
3. Access to **FREE** CPD in Dance, Design and Sing which supports Cultural Champions to develop their curriculum through accessing award-winning plans, resources and live lessons.
4. Opportunity to attend our annual Cultural Champions Symposium and Schools Matinees, providing a regular opportunity to connect with Cultural Champions across the country.

To find out more about Cultural Champions, please use the QR code below or email cultural.champions@roh.org.uk



Here is a short video trailer about the programme - [RBO Cultural Champions Trailer - YouTube](#)

Here is a link to the website where colleagues can sign up to the programme - [Royal Ballet and Opera Schools](#)

Sensory CPD Trailers - [Teacher CPD for Sensory \(PMLD\) Learners - RBO Schools: Create & Dance - YouTube](#)

Teacher CPD for Sensory (PMLD) Learners - RBO Schools

Sing, Dance & Design CPD Trailers -

RBO Schools - A window into ...Create & Design teacher CPD - YouTube

RBO Schools - A window into ...Create & Dance teacher CPD - YouTube

RBO Schools - A window into ...Create & Sing teacher CPD - YouTube

Summer Dance For Rights Event - RBO Schools: Dance for Rights — Every Child. Every Move. - YouTube

Christina Luchies

Head of Participation & School Music

Hertfordshire Music Service

Bookings or contact directly:

 christina.luchies@hertfordshire.gov.uk

 Book a meeting: <https://outlook.office.com/bookwithme/...>

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