
Music education: call for evidence

To help reflect advances in technology in the way music is created, recorded and produced, and to reassess the music education young people benefit from at school, the Department for Education is today (Sunday 9 February) inviting views from

Parents and carers

Young people

Primary schools

Secondary schools

Further Education (FE) and sixth-form colleges

School and college staff, **including governors**

National and local voluntary and community organisations providing musical activities for children and young people

Music education hubs and other music services

Musicians

Employers in the music industry

Other educational professionals including academics and researchers

The plan will help level up opportunities for children from all backgrounds to take part in musical education, including the chance to learn how to play an instrument, perform in a choir or band, and develop a lifelong love of music.

To take part in the survey and read more please click [here](#).

School Standards Minister Nick Gibb said:

All children, regardless of their background, should get the opportunity to play musical instruments, learn to sing and learn how to read and write music in the classroom.

I want to continue to level up opportunities so all young people can get the best out of their music education. We can only achieve this if we reflect on the latest advances in music and work together with experts in the music industry, specialist teachers, as well as reflecting on young people's experiences.

Chief Executive of the Arts Council, Dr Darren Henley said:

Learning to perform and compose music is a life changing experience, unlocking decades of discovery, enjoyment and creativity. The Government's commitment to a new National Plan for Music Education is an exciting step in nurturing the next generation of creative talent across England. These young people will go on to become the music industry professionals and the audiences of the future. It's important that everyone who cares about music takes part in this consultation so that all young people get the chance to fulfil their musical potential.

Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber said:

Every child should have the right to free music education as a vital part of the school curriculum. Music is an empowering force for good.

I am very pleased that the Department For Education has taken on board the proven achievements of the Music In Secondary Schools Trust. Under its aegis, 8,000 children now have full access to music whereas before there was none. Parents report that their children now have pride in their accomplishments and that their self-esteem, confidence and self-worth have grown.

It has been proven to be the common denominator in schools where often over sixty languages are spoken. I passionately hope this is the beginning of seeing music back where it belongs as a central part of our schools' curriculum. This builds on the recently announced £85million for a further year of our current music and arts programmes, including music hubs, and is in addition to the manifesto commitment to offer an 'arts premium' to secondary schools to allow young people to learn creative skills and widen their horizons.

The refreshed National Plan will be published in autumn 2020 and will build on the current plan which was first published in 2011, which sets out our ambitious vision for music education for all children in England. The plan established the music education hubs – a network working in and beyond schools to give children the opportunity to sing and learn instruments.

The Call for Evidence includes specific questions on areas experts have told us are particularly important, including SEND and inclusivity, music technology and the music education hubs. The responses and experiences put forward will help inform changes to the plan which will then be fully consulted on.

ESFA Update academies: 5 February 2020

Click [here](#) to read the latest ESFA updates for academies

Information: benchmarking report cards issued to local authority maintained schools

On 24 January 2020, the DfE distributed benchmarking report cards to local authority maintained schools. The cards use spending data updated for the 2018 to 2019 financial year. These individual report cards contain highlights of a school's spending compared with statistically similar schools in terms of levels of deprivation and special educational needs. The cards were sent to the school contact email address recorded on [Get information about schools \(GIAS\)](#). If schools have any queries about these report cards, we are directing them to School.RESOURCEMANAGEMENT@education.gov.uk

Audit your School Website - Maintained Schools

Every maintained school must publish specific information on its website to comply with The School Information (England) Regulations 2008 and subsequent amendments in 2012 and 2016.

Whilst this duty rests with the governing board, the headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team (SLT) should have operational responsibility for its implementation.

Governors should maintain a strategic focus on the school's online presence. In practice, this means holding the school to account through monitoring the school website.

Click on the link below to see what should be published on the school web-site.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online>

Audit your Academy Website

Academies are required to provide information through their Funding Agreements or The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2014.

Academies must publish specific information on its website whilst this duty rests with the governing board, the headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team (SLT) should have operational responsibility for its implementation.

Governors should maintain a strategic focus on the school's online presence. In practice, this means holding the school to account through monitoring the school website.

Click on the link below to see what should be published on the school web-site.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-academies-free-schools-and-colleges-should-publish-online>

Nominate your young person of the year

There's still time to show your appreciation for young people across the city and county by submitting your nominations for the Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire awards 2020.

The closing date for this year's nominations is **Sunday 16 February 2020**. So there's still time to support the Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire's 2020 awards for young people by submitting your nominations. The award scheme is open to all 13 to 19 year olds living in Leicester and Leicestershire.

Individuals can be nominated by other young people, their school, parent or carer, as well as any other agency or individual. If you know a young person whose bravery, dedication; creativity, strength of spirit and selflessness deserves wider recognition, nominate them for one of the four categories listed below:

Young Braveheart
Young Volunteer
Young Leader
Young Artist

To find out more about the awards or to nominate a young person go online at: www.leicestershire.gov.uk/llawards or you can contact the Lieutenancy office via email lieutenancyoffice@leics.gov.uk or call 0116 305 6002.

Secondary school performance tables in England: 2018 to 2019 (revised)

Click [here](#) to see the achievements of pupils at key stage 4, and how they compare with other schools in their local authority area and in England.

The secondary school performance tables (based on provisional data) show:

attainment results for pupils at the end of key stage 4

the progress made by pupils between the end of primary school to the end of secondary school

There is also data about school:

income and expenditure

workforce

pupil characteristics

pupil absence

Ofsted inspections
