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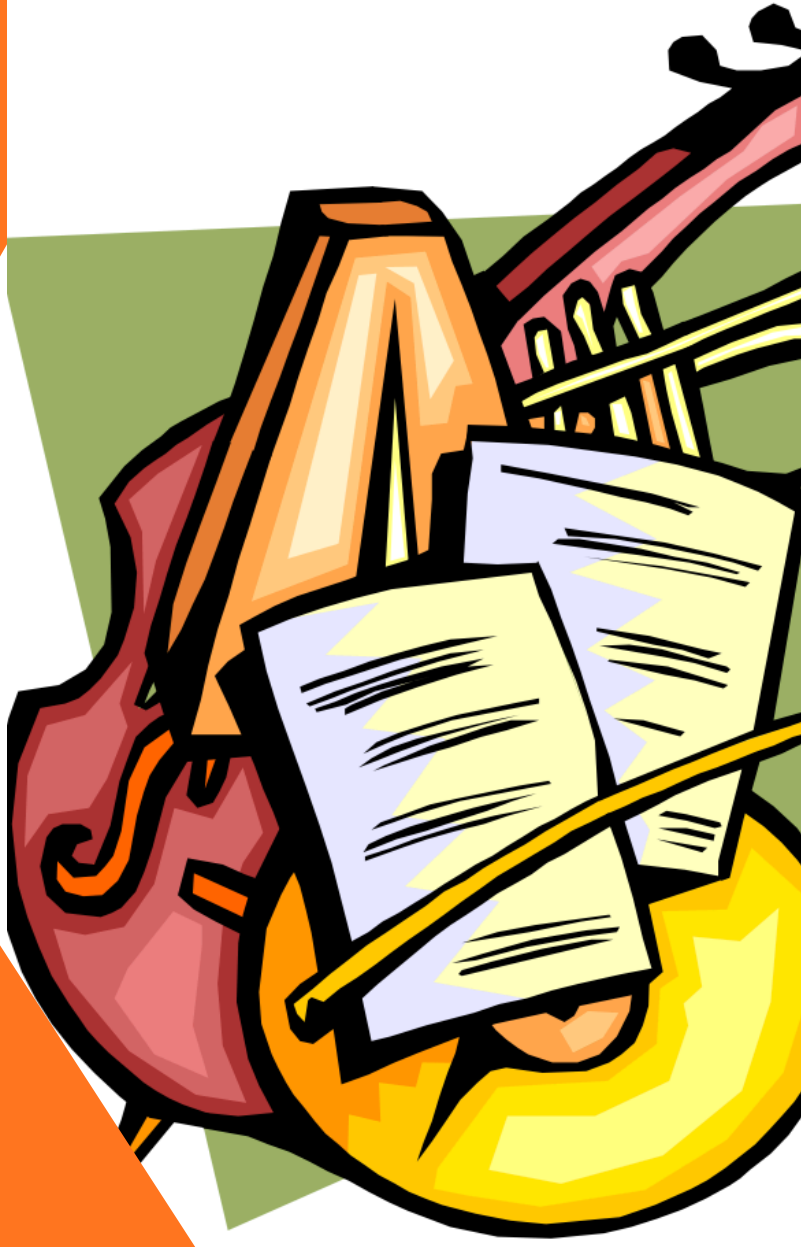
GSW Music Hub
Gloucestershire
Swindon
Wiltshire



WELCOME TO GSW ANNUAL HUB FUNDING FRAMEWORK

A GUIDE FOR DELIVERY PARTNERS

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



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MESSAGE

About This Framework
GSW Music Hub created this guide to help Associate Delivery Partners, understand what funding grants are available and the ways we track and support grant recipients.

How to Apply for Funding
We manage all funding applications through our Glide Portal.

Who Can Access the Portal
To use the portal, you must be either an approved Associate (whether you're an individual or an organisation) or registered as a school requester.

Welcome to GSW Music Hub
Funding, and Monitoring Framework

This framework establishes the parameters for GSW Music Hub's partnerships. It outlines our expectations of the delivery partners in whom we invest, as well as what partners can expect from us in return. The framework aims to support the music sector across Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire in maintaining ambitious, high-quality provision that is both dynamic and flexible in its approach. It seeks to foster an infrastructure that is inclusive, relevant, and accessible to all children and young people, while emphasising the critical importance of robust hub programme planning.





How GSW Hub will invest

Subject to government funding being allocated, GSW Music Hub will offer applications through a Grant application portal. These grants are as follows:

Grant A – Professional Organisations (**£16k – upwards)** for annual full year applications - Full commissioning process supported with a local Sub Grant Agreement - Must be match funded at 50% income from other sources, in-kind support can be offered in some cases.

Reporting Requirements It is likely that ACE/DfE reporting requirements will change before or during the course of the next academic year - if this is the case we will do our best to make this as simple to incorporate as we can but anyone delivering with Hub funds will need to be aware this may happen.

Financial support for delivery is offered for the duration of one year (normally the Academic year).

Branding and marketing guidance to follow will include a requirement for appropriate referencing of the HLO, Arts Council England and DfE's support.

Grant B – Individual professionals and Professional organisations **(£2k+ - £15K)** for annual full year applications - Full commissioning process supported with a local Sub Grant Agreement - Must be match funded at 50% income from other sources, in-kind support can be offered in some cases.

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WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS AND WHO CAN APPLY FOR FUNDING?

Separate Funding Agreements for Community Groups and Schools.

Grants A & B: Music Projects

Our Vision for our Investment

Through Grants A and B, we are seeking innovative and impactful applications from organisations delivering music projects for children and young people across Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire. We are particularly interested in initiatives that embody our core principle of enabling young people to make, learn, and enjoy in music.

What We're Looking For

We welcome applications for projects that achieve one or more of the following objectives:

We want innovative projects that enable young people to **make, learn, and enjoy music.** We're especially interested in:

Sustaining Grassroots Provision

- Maintain essential community music programmes
- Meet real local needs
- Build on existing provision
- Support our schools' music provision

Disrupting the Status Quo

- Challenge traditional approaches
- Break down barriers to access
- Make music more relevant to young people's lives
- Create opportunities that haven't existed before

Integrated Approaches

Projects combining both goals are particularly welcome.

Geographic Scope Projects must be delivered within Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire and demonstrate clear benefits for children and young people in these schools and communities.

Who is eligible to apply?

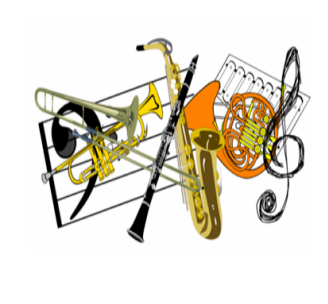
Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for Grants A and B, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. **Hub Membership Status** You or your organisation must hold Approved Associate status with the GSW Music Hub. This formal relationship ensures alignment with our strategic objectives and quality standards.

2. **Commitment to the Associate Eco-Family Ethos** All applicants must demonstrate their commitment to and sign up to the core principles of our associate eco-family, which include:

Financial Sustainability







- **Contributing to leveraged income targets**: Associates must actively contribute toward the leveraged income requirements mandated by the Department for Education (DfE), through the Arts Council England (ACE). This ensures the long-term sustainability and growth of music education provision across Swindon and Wiltshire.

- **Sustainable pricing models**: Services must not be offered free of charge. While we are committed to accessibility and removing barriers to participation, associates are expected to implement appropriate pricing structures that reflect the value of their provision and contribute to the sector's financial viability. Where necessary, subsidised rates or bursary schemes should be explored to maintain accessibility whilst ensuring sustainability.

- **Our Associate Eco-Family Values (our Inclusion Policy)**
  1. Radical listening and youth-centric design
  2. Embedding equality as core business
  3. Challenging underrepresentation
  4. Creating authentic representation and diverse musical futures
  5. Accessible, anti-oppressive communications
  6. Transformative partnerships for systemic change
  7. Data-driven accountability and courageous reflection
  8. Cultivating a culture of belonging

Additional Considerations If you are unsure about your eligibility or Approved Associate status, please contact the GSW Music Hub team before submitting your application. We are here to support potential applicants through the process and can provide guidance on meeting these criteria.

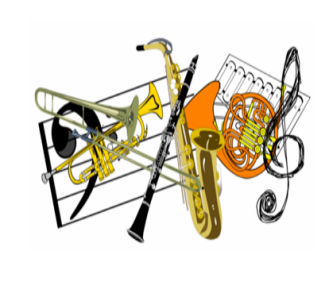
Quality Framework

Applications must sign up to our Quality Charter

Across Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire, our partners create powerful musical experiences with young people. The GSW Quality Framework provides a clear, simple way to describe quality across the region - rooted in youth voice, access, musical progression and lived experience.

Our Principles

- **Lived experience over external judgement** - quality is seen in real moments of music-making, which we share and learn from
- **Youth voice at the centre** - young people shape design, delivery and review
- **Musical x Holistic** - progress and wellbeing matter equally
- **Different in different context** - quality looks different in schools, studios, community spaces, events
- **Connection over comparison** - learning together, not ranking
- **Space to improve, not pressure to prove** - light, purposeful evidence



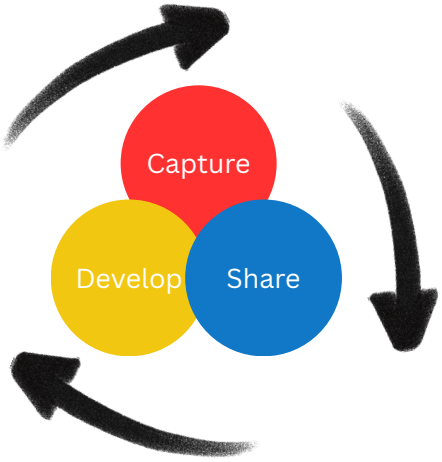




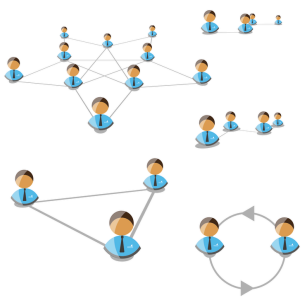
The Framework : Capture - Share - Develop

Based on Youth Music's Capture, Share, Develop which enables a shared cycle of reflection and learning that supports consistent, collaborative quality across the GSW partnership

Capture - observations, youth voice, stakeholder feedback, engagement data, stories & lived examples
Share - peer visits, shared clips/stories, reflective summaries, annual conversations
Develop - CPD, acting on feedback, continuous reflection, strong safeguarding & inclusion



It's a continuous loop, not a one0off exercise - encouraging open, reflective practice and a cycle of improvement that's practical, evidence-based, and rooted in lived experiences.



Funded Partners will agree to:

- Celebrate diverse approaches to quality
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- Participate in a shared reflective cycle
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- Use evidence meaningfully
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- Support opens, curiosity and kindness
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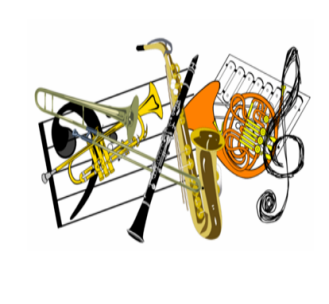
- Build a shared story of quality for GSW

Other useful documents



GSW Music Hub Inclusion Strategy:
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/p3nndwxc/gsw-inclusion-strategy.pdf

GSW Commissioning Policy:
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gsw-music-hub/policies/



GSW Quality assurance Framework:
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gsw-music-hub/quality-and-impact/

