

Working in partnership with schools to spark musical lives

Our residency programmes are developed to support school music provision - focused on engagement, communication, pupil choice and voice.



"Having engaged with Live Music Now School Residences over the past 20 years and across 3 primary and secondary special schools, I can confidently recommend this approach to supporting not only music education, but overall engagement and the development of early communication skills in children with a range of complex needs and learning disabilities.

As a teacher for children with SEND and later as a SEND school leader, I have seen first-hand the positive benefits for both children and young people, and the adults working with them as teachers and teaching assistants."

Deborah Rogers - experienced SEND school leader

Ways to use your residency

- Offer individual or small group sessions, always with at least one member of school staff present.
- Enrich the curriculum of children who may struggle to access the more conventional school sessions, due to their significant barriers to learning.
- Enjoy larger group 'concerts' and unique live music experiences - sure to prompt the most wonderful responses!
- Support and complement the School's curriculum and approach by having a designated member of school staff to liaise with the musician.



Positives for Pupils

- A skilled musician brings a range of additional and exciting experiences for pupils, prompting extraordinary and unexpected responses from them.
- Having time and space to respond to sound builds all areas of pupils' engagement – exploration, realisation, anticipation, persistence and initiation – in the most enjoyable way.
- A personalised approach to developing the earliest stages of communication, and social skills, through individual or small group sessions with the musician.
- Opportunity to give new and sustained responses to music and sound in motivational sessions which are developed with the pupils – each school residency is unique.

Positives for Staff

- Informal training during the sessions supports staff to build reactive, proactive and interactive responses to sound, and then add this to their existing 'toolkit'.
- Opportunity to observe and record pupils' responses during sessions and use this to support pupils' engagement in the wider curriculum.
- Joining the sessions allows staff to revisit and create similar experiences in their own sessions, supporting pupil progress over time and meaning that learning during the residency is not lost, but absorbed into pupils' overall school experience.

Positives for School Leaders

- Very effective use of Pupil Premium to address pupils' Engagement, Communication and Social Skills, alongside staff development.
- Residencies support high quality teaching by developing staff skills, knowledge and expertise. They can be used as targeted support for pupils' very early communication and social skills, and their early emotional development. For example, during sessions pupils learn to look, listen, wait, turn take, copy, lead, follow, respond etc.
- School leaders can have confidence that this 'intervention' truly enriches the school experience for pupils and has the potential to add to staff's existing understanding and expertise.
- An inclusive addition to the school curriculum, being fully accessible for all and particularly suited to pupils with complex needs, who may struggle to access some aspects of school life.
- Accreditation options for individual pupils and/or the whole school available as part of your residency package - please see overleaf.



Watch Session!

Accreditation

Live Music Now and your Musician in Residence can support your school with accreditation, both for individual pupils and/or for your school as a whole.

Trinity College's Awards and Certificates in Musical Development

This is a suite of fully inclusive qualifications intended for pupils across the whole spectrum of abilities and needs.

- Accessible to any pupil who is able to respond to sound and music
- Levels mapped to the Sounds of Intent framework
- Assessment carried out during music sessions and evidenced through video recordings and teacher reports
- Pupils receive a certificate on completion of a Trinity Award

Your Musician in Residence can support you with deciding pupils to enter, their levels and evidence collection. Live Music Now is an accredited award centre and will enter pupils once evidence is collected.

Sounds of Intent Inclusive Music Education Awards

Launched in March 2026, these awards recognise a school's commitment to inclusive music practice. Live Music Now can support your school to gain an Inclusive Music Education Award through Sounds of Intent by:

- Providing regular music experiences at school (Bronze Award)
- Advising on training and resources (all Award levels)
- Supporting with Sounds of Intent musical assessment (Silver and Gold Awards)
- Entering learners for Trinity College Awards in Musical Development (Gold Award)
- Providing CPD to support teaching staff (all Award levels, additional cost - please enquire for details)

Further information about school awards [here](#).

Contact us to discuss options for your school:

laura.beardsmore@livemusicnow.org.uk

020 7759 1803

www.livemusicnow.org.uk

Charity Number: 273596

