

School Music Education Plan (SMEP) 2022/23

As a result of the Ofsted report, 'Music in schools: what hubs must do', (Nov 2013) Music Education Hubs in England have been tasked with ensuring that all schools have a School Music Education Plan (SMEP).

Context:

- The challenges facing music curriculum leaders in primary and secondary schools are recognised.
- BEAT created a new post, Director of Learning and Participation, with curriculum support included in the job description, in September 2019. The type of support needed changed rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic as schools sought help with providing online and home resources and with teaching a practical subject under severe restrictions.
- The pandemic has in many schools led to a further squeeze on curriculum time devoted to music and a decline in practical music activities, especially singing.
- Since the lifting of COVID restrictions and resumption of Ofsted inspections, schools are focusing on their broader curriculum; it is a good time to offer challenging conversations around Music provision.

Self-Evaluation Tool:

- Some schools have significant provision, whereas others may need more support to develop their work.
- Schools are offered a free one hour SMEP meeting to discuss their current provision with a BEAT adviser. Previous conversations have been on a school by school basis.
- The attached **Self-Evaluation Tool** (in draft) will be published on our website. Schools will be encouraged to use it to assess their current music provision, identify weaker areas, and share this information with us so that we can support them as required and according to need.
- This document can be the starting point of a SMEP meeting with the school.
- A needs analysis of schools based on our current provision and knowledge is in progress to identify schools that could particularly benefit from challenging conversations around their Music provision. Proactive contact will be made with schools that are assessed to be high priority.
- BEAT aims to have an active and positive relationship with every school in Barnet over the next 3 years.

Our three key areas of support:

1. Planning and Communication:

- Help schools to engage with BEAT and the NPME;
- Offering regular supportive, challenging conversations to every school in Barnet;
- Offer a suitable proportion of staff time to work with school leaders strategically.

2. Networks and Expertise:

- Promote BEAT staff as expert leaders of music educations;
- Facilitate school-to-school support as required;
- Publicise all BEAT activities effectively to schools, explaining how they contribute to schools' Music Plans.

3. Curriculum and CPD:

- Offer support to schools, help to evaluate and improve their music curriculum;
- Offer expert CPD opportunities and consultancy to school music leaders;
- Ensure own staff and any partners are informed and well trained;
- Ensure all hub work in schools contributes to high quality curriculum progression in schools.

Useful Docs:

Ofsted Report: [Music in Schools: promoting good practice \(Sept. 2012\)](#)

Schools Music Education Plan Guidance

Model Music Curriculum (DfE)

National Plan for Music Education (NPME)

National Curriculum for Music