

National Plan for Music Education

Enjoying music improves our health and well-being. We want all children and young people in Wales to be able to play, sing, take part in and make music.

To make sure this happens, we have written a **National Plan for Music Education**. Organisations across Wales will work together on this plan.

This guide will tell you how children and young people from all backgrounds will be able to make the most of our culture, heritage and communities across Wales and beyond.

When we talk about children and young people in this guide, we mean you, your friends and every child and young person.



Why have we written a plan?

Music education is important in a number of ways. We want you to learn about and take part in music:

- in schools and settings
- in your community, outside schools and settings
- to explore music as a career, for study and for life
- with music teachers from all communities
- to help your health and well-being.

To help us to do this, there will be a new **National Music Service**. It will work with other organisations to make it fair, so that everyone has an equal chance to play, sing, take part in, and make music.

You might need:

- extra help to afford instruments, tuition or travel
- extra help if it is difficult to find music activities or tuition because of where you live
- special instruments or help with learning to suit your needs.



No matter who you are, where you live, what community you come from or where you learn, you and all children and young people will have the same chances to enjoy music.

The music service will have a **national instrument, resources and equipment library** to make sure you have the instruments and equipment you need.

We will also **train our music service teachers** so that they can help your school teachers to deliver music activities.

As part of our plan, we will develop programmes of work to help you in learning music. Some are in schools and settings and some are outside school and settings.



Music in schools

In schools and settings, there will be different ways to learn about making music and take part in performances and music experiences. We have described a number of programmes that the music service will deliver in your schools and settings.

First experiences are for everyone aged 3 to 11. There will be music activities to inspire you which can help your health and well-being and make you feel more confident. There will be chances to:

- play instruments, sing, make music and use technology
- learn musical skills
- learn about a wide range of music from Wales and around the world.

Live music experiences are for everyone aged 3 to 16. Live music can help your confidence and well-being, and might make you think about a career in music. You will be able to:

- learn about and celebrate music in and outside school
- experience live and digital performances
- take part in musical performances
- play music with other young people and musicians
- find out about further study and look at music as a career.



Music tuition is for everyone aged 3 to 16. Tuition is an important part of developing your knowledge and skills to enjoy music or make it a career. There will be:

- a wide choice of music, musicians, instruments and equipment to learn from
- access to music services in all areas of Wales
- music tuition to learn and use an instrument or equipment if you need it
- a chance to work with musicians from different communities
- access to tuition no matter where in Wales you live – sometimes this might mean learning online.



Music pathways are for everyone aged 11 to 16. It is important for all young people to have opportunities to develop skills in music. This could be for enjoying music, for your health and well-being, or to help you learn what it is like to work in the creative industries. You will:

- have a chance to study singing or a musical instrument
- be able to take part in music activities
- have a say in what you learn
- have a chance to take part in musical experiences, locally and further away
- be able to improve your knowledge of music theory
- find out about different ways to make music your career.

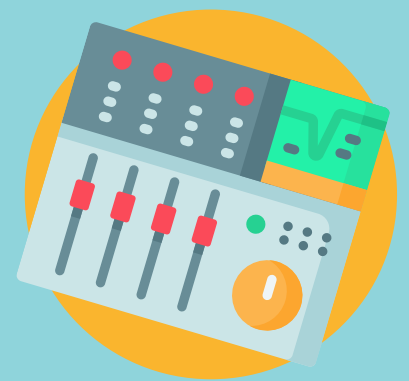


Music in and outside school

In supporting you to learn music in and outside school, we need to help your teachers to deliver music activities. This will make sure that the plan helps schools and settings in delivering Curriculum for Wales.

Doing this means that your teachers and the music service will work together to deliver music that is right for you. This will help you realise the four purposes of Curriculum for Wales so that you can become:

- an ambitious, capable learner, ready to learn throughout your life
- an enterprising, creative contributor, ready to play a full part in life and work
- an ethical, informed citizen of Wales and the world
- a healthy, confident individual, ready to lead a fulfilling life as a valued member of society.



Music education belongs to everyone. That's why we have our **Equity, diversity and inclusion** programme, which will help everyone across Wales from all communities to feel at home making music that represents them. To make this happen, we need music teachers in the future to look and sound like all of society. There will be:

- opportunities for you and your friends from all backgrounds to have a say in what music tuition and activities are offered and we can change it to suit your needs
- more working together across your music community
- more opportunities to celebrate the culture of Wales and other cultures in performances
- a bigger range of musicians working together, and choices of music.

We have the **Music for lifelong learning, health and well-being** programme which will help you to build skills for life, like showing emotions and becoming more confident. There will be chances for you to:

- play in groups or ensembles
- make your own music
- go to recording studios or venues
- take part in national and international events and festivals
- perform with professional musicians.



Music outside school

Our plan will help support you in learning music outside school.

Wales is well known for musical talent. Through our **Making music with others – music activities and ensembles** programme, we will build choirs, bands and ensembles at school, in the community, and across Wales.

You will be able to:

- use your voice to decide what sort of music-making is offered to you and your community
- perform in public
- take part in local music activities
- find extra help with costs of taking part or travelling
- find extra help if you need a special instrument, or if you have additional learning needs
- take part in activities that represent Wales.

We also have **Making music with others – performing and creative industries** programme which can help you think about music as a career. You will have the chance to:

- perform in Welsh and English, as well as other languages if you speak them
- find out about opportunities to take part and perform, in your school, local community, across Wales and the world
- find out about careers by creating, recording and producing music
- take part in performances whether it is in your local area or somewhere else in Wales and other countries
- find out about recording studios and other music-making spaces
- find out more about studying in higher education or how to have a career in music and the creative industries.



Visit our website to read the full version of the

National Plan for Music Education.

gov.wales/national-plan-music-education

