

## **Freelance Music Practitioner – Project Brief**

Bristol Beacon works with a team of Freelance Music Practitioners to provide high quality music learning and music making opportunities to young people through its various Creative Learning and Engagement education programmes.

Members of this team are included on the **Register of Freelance Music Practitioners**. Individuals on the register may provide services as a Music Practitioner, or be invited to deliver for specific educational projects, as and when there is a requirement and according to their specialist musical tuition and group facilitation skills across various settings and age-groups. Work is offered to those on the register, but please note that inclusion on the register is no guarantee of work. The register is reviewed on an annual basis and those individuals who have not provided services for the past year will be deregistered, but can reapply again in the future.

### **Scope of Work:**

A Freelance Music Practitioners' services can be sessions and projects generally delivered in schools or Music Centres, or other settings, depending on your particular skills set and business requirements. There are a number of types of work within each role:

- **Progression routes**

Providing music tuition to individuals, small groups or ensembles of pupils in schools, educational establishments or a Bristol Beacon site on a specific instrument or voice. Bookings will be confirmed each double term. Sessions will be delivered at an agreed time and day through this period, and will generally take place during the school day, or before/after school. The size of the group and length of session will vary between settings. In addition Freelance Music Practitioners may be asked to deputise for other Freelance Music Practitioners on occasions or Practitioners can provide their own deputy, subject to them meeting Bristol Beacon's criteria and within safeguarding policy guidelines.

Freelance Music Practitioners should use the Termly Lesson Plan and develop their own schemes of work to develop pupils' music ability, update Pupil handbooks after each session, and complete two reports per year for each pupil.

- **Whole class ensemble tuition**

The Freelance Music Practitioner will work in schools with whole class/classes of pupils in delivering music projects. Practitioners will deliver a scheme of work aimed at giving pupils a positive music experience and developing basic music ability. The class teacher will be present during each session

to implement the school's behaviour policy, allowing the Practitioner to focus on teaching and learning.

- **Bespoke programmes**

Instrumental programmes – The Freelance Music Practitioner will work as part of a team delivering a combination of instrumental and ensemble tuition in a specific school.

Workshops - The Freelance Music Practitioner will work with group/groups of pupils on a one off basis, usually for a half or full day. Generally this will be on the same instrument, or instrument group. The Practitioner will discuss and agree objectives for the session with the relevant school staff member prior to the workshop.

- **Special Schools**

Delivery of music projects to whole class/classes of pupils within specialist schools for young people who may have SEN (Special Educational Needs) or an EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan). Music Practitioners placed in these settings have the qualifications, skills and experience to be successful educators in this aspirational environment, but we will ensure additional support or training is provided where needed.

- **PRU's**

Delivery of music projects and individual music lessons to children at pupil referral units. This work is only suited to practitioners who have the necessary qualifications, training, skills and experience with this particular cohort, but we will ensure that additional support or training is provided where needed.

### **Music Centre delivery**

The Freelance Music Practitioner will provide specialist instrumental guidance working with ensembles and orchestras, and with sectional groups. Music Centres operate during the evening or at weekends in a variety of settings, and work includes rehearsals and some performances.

- **Other – Delivery**

The Freelance Music Practitioner may be asked to deliver other music tuition, including after/pre-school tuition, or participating/leading assemblies and workshops to promote take-up of instrumental lessons or other skilled activities (e.g. page turning)

- **Other - Non Delivery**

The Freelance Music Practitioner may be asked to participate in other activities including attendance at meetings, CPD sessions or lesson observations

### Freelance Music Leader:

This role is split into Senior Music Leader and Music Leader delivery. The relevant role will be decided when work is allocated, based on the individual's skills and experience, and the

requirements of the project. A Senior Music Leader may have overall responsibility for directing, creating and delivering workshop activity and additional Music Leaders may support that delivery.

- **Music-based Mentoring**

Music-based Mentoring describes the use of music as a tool to help people develop their social and emotional skills. This approach has been developed over a number of years in partnership with Youth Music and is influenced by Youth Work practice. Mentees set goals with their Mentors and reflect on progress regularly. This work can take place 1-2-1 or within a group setting and may involve young people in challenging circumstances.

- **Open Access & Drop In**

Open Access programmes give young people a chance to have a go at making music and meeting other like-minded young people in an informal and relaxed atmosphere outside of a school setting. Music Leaders are on hand to offer advice and guidance on everything from how to write your first song and get your first gig, to how to manage creative differences within a band. The emphasis is on facilitating the creativity and musicality of young people whilst helping them develop their communication skills and confidence.

- **Ensembles**

Ensemble programmes enable young people to learn, create and perform collectively. Music Leaders support the creative process of songwriting, arrangement, improvisation, critique and performance through a supportive teamwork approach often allowing the musical direction to be young person led. Group sizes can vary from 5 to 40 young people and can meet over a series of weekly short sessions or full days over a whole week depending on the specific project and its aims. The objectives are to develop both musical and collaborative skills amongst young people with varying levels of ability and experience through working towards a shared goal.

Special projects:

In addition to work detailed above, Freelance Music Practitioners may be invited to deliver specific projects as required by the Creative Learning and Engagement Team. These may attract different rates of pay or a set project fee. A separate Project Brief will be provided for this work.

**Key Music Practitioner attributes and requirements:**

- Experience of teaching and playing chosen instrument(s) to a high standard (e.g. Grade 8)
- Experience of working in formal or non formal music education
- Ability to motivate and interest pupils in music lessons
- Excellent communication and listening skills
- Ability to work independently
- A positive philosophy of the impact of music on a child's development
- Knowledge of behavioural management strategies
- Ability to set out plans to improve pupils' musical ability, including producing Schemes of work and Project/Lesson plans
- Knowledge of wider musical opportunities, and ability to refer pupils on as appropriate

- Ability to self evaluate, and a commitment to continuous professional development
- A sound knowledge of music hubs, and music education within the national curriculum
- Awareness of inclusion issues that stop or hinder young people learning an instrument
- Knowledge of Child Protection issues and up to date Safeguarding training is essential
- Adherence to the Bristol Beacon Code of Conduct.
- Adhere to Bristol Beacon Safeguarding measures and procedures in line with the Bristol Beacon Safeguarding Policy and Handbook (training will be provided).
- Ability to contribute to the moral, social and cultural wellbeing of allocated pupils
- A current enhanced DBS check is essential
- Public Liability Insurance of £5m is essential

### **Background Information:**

#### Bristol Beacon

Bristol Music Trust was established in 2011 to run the South West's largest concert venue, **Bristol Beacon**, and promote musical excellence, creative learning, and engagement. We announced a change of name in September 2020 from Colston Hall to Bristol Beacon – a symbol of hope and community, a focal point for music and a place of welcome, warmth and light.

Bristol Beacon has been part of Bristol's cultural heritage for 150 years, hosting some of the world's greatest musicians from The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra to The Beatles and Rachmaninov. Our vision is to unite people through the joy of live music. We achieve this through a diverse programme of inspirational musical experiences, which offers something for everybody and encompasses music of all genres including classical, jazz, folk, world, rock, and pop, as well as local choirs, orchestras, and schools.

In 2018, we embarked on a major capital transformation to create a world-class concert hall for the region that is the most inclusive in the UK. Prior to transformation, our artistic programme had grown to 450 events and six major festivals, attracting 300,000 visitors per year. Our visitors come from across the UK and abroad with 65% from Bristol. Throughout the refurbishment, we have established a programme of 200 concerts per year in interesting locations, which has maintained crucial engagement with audiences and artists, targeting hard-to-reach groups and disadvantaged areas.

As an organisation increasing in national importance, we have developed our creative learning and engagement work on an unparalleled scale. Our specialisms include working with underrepresented communities, including 2,500 young people with disabilities and in care. As the Music-Education-Hub for Bristol, we deliver the National-Plan-for-Music-Education to all children aged 4-18, inspiring 39,000 children in 150 schools, special schools, and youth groups every year. Our community led Transformation Promise programme, in partnership with The National Foundation for Youth Music and Paul Hamlyn Foundation, works with children under five from low-income families, adults in social isolation/with dementia, children in care/care leavers and community musicians.

We are showing further sector leadership through our sustainability commitment to become the first carbon neutral concert hall in the UK.

We achieve all of this through the work of our vibrant and dedicated staff team. We aspire to reflect the city of Bristol and its people and value individual difference.

### **Creative Learning & Engagement**

Creative Learning & Engagement (CLE) is responsible for four areas of work: The National Centre for Inclusive Excellence, Artist Development, Community Engagement, and Bristol Plays Music (Bristol's music education hub).

Now in its seventh year, Bristol Plays Music has made significant progress toward achieving its vision of making Bristol the 'UK Capital of Young People's Music'. Our award-winning education programme for young people now works with and reaches Bristolians of all ages and all backgrounds.

At the heart of our work is great music making and learning. Our programme sets out to encourage participation, engender a sense of civic pride and instil a lifelong love of musical culture. With three prestigious awards in two years from the Music Education Council (MEC) and Music Teacher Awards for Excellence, including winning the Major Prize for best music education hub, our work is gaining national recognition.

Over the next four years, as the transformation of the Hall comes into focus, a sharper vision for learning and engagement will be required; one that underpins the Trusts revised strategic priorities and engages all the communities of Greater Bristol and beyond. Looking ahead, CLE will work in close partnership with the Programme team to further integrate education and engagement activities into the creative output of the Hall – maximising the opportunities made possible through a world-class live music programme.

### **The National Centre for Inclusive Excellence**

The National Centre for Inclusive Excellence (NCIE) is a national programme, part of Bristol Beacon, with funding from the National Foundation for Youth Music, to explore the civic role of music and the arts and their impact on individuals, communities and society. The NCIE works through a national partnership of music industry, higher education, local and national government, and other institutions across the arts and cultural sector. The NCIE draws upon the expertise of its partners to commission research, challenge existing practice, highlight examples of best practice, and, where necessary, develop new and innovative ways of working across a range of areas, including health, technology, inclusion, and artist development.

From September 2018, the NCIE began a four-year programme of work as part of Youth Music's Fund C portfolio, which focuses on enabling talented, young musicians to overcome disabling barriers to their musical progression and develop the artistic and professional skills they need to enter the music industry or higher education. Upon completion of our major transformation project, NCIE will be based in Bristol Beacon's transformed concert hall, working nationally with major concert halls such as the Sage Gateshead and Barbican Centre, in London.