

**Dynamics – The Medway Music Education Hub CIC**  
**Guidance on teaching KS2 Wider Opportunities provision during COVID-19 2020/21 for schools and Licensed Music Teachers**

Dynamics CIC has updated these guidance notes to enable the delivery of KS2 Wider Opportunities music projects where possible. It is hoped that the options offered will help each school, with their particular circumstances, to adapt planned projects in order that their pupils can continue to benefit from specialist music provision.

The latest government guidance on music for the full reopening of schools on 8 March 2021 says that **“schools can continue to engage peripatetic teachers during this period, including staff from music education hubs.”**

You will have received your Funding Agreement 2020/21 in July 2020, which outlines planned provision for 2020/21. We understand that in most cases, these projects will not be able to be delivered as they would under normal circumstances. We aim to be as flexible as possible, so that provision matches the circumstances in schools.

Music Mark has produced detailed guidance on how to accommodate different types of teaching, for example room sizes, distancing etc. We would urge you to review this information while making decisions concerning music in 2020/21. Please particularly read the new **England Guidance Supplement, Guidance for Schools** and **Guidance for Providers**. These documents are regularly updated and include information on the full reopening from 8 March 2021 and the move to Step 2 of the Roadmap on Monday 12 April 2021.

<https://www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/music-unlocked-guidance-for-schools-and-music-providers/>

The latest DfE guidance on the delivery of music can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

We may be subject to further guidance from our funders Arts Council England and the DfE. Should we receive updated information from them, we will contact all schools and Licensed Music Teachers (LMTs) to ensure all projects are being delivered within updated guidelines.

**KS2 Wider Opportunities – Alternative Model Options**

Please read through the options below. The circumstances in each school will be unique, so please choose an appropriate option, or mixture of options, in agreement with your LMT, to enable safe delivery of projects for your pupils, staff and LMTs.

We are keen to be as flexible as possible, so please negotiate directly with your LMTs to find a mutually agreeable solution. Some LMTs will not be able or willing to visit during this time, so please contact us if you would like to discuss a temporary alternative.

We understand these options may not cover the specific circumstances of some schools, so do contact us if you have questions about your school's situation.

### **1. Blocking time – relevant to large and small group teaching**

Schools can extend the length of LMT visits, meaning less frequent LMT visits.

*Example*

- *Instead of LMT visiting for 1 hour per week, they may visit for 3 hours per week every 3 weeks, or until normal circumstances can resume.*
- *Within these longer visits, classes or large groups could be split into smaller groups, or provision could be adapted to do a more in depth project across 3 hours with the same group of children.*

### **2. Adapting Provision – relevant for large groups**

Some instruments may be more difficult to use in large groups, particularly wind instruments like recorder, or shared instruments like djembe, which would be difficult to clean in a short turnaround between sessions.

Instead, LMTs could come in and use methods such as body percussion to develop general musical skills without needing instruments that are difficult to use in the short term.

### **3. Reducing group sizes and frequency – relevant to large and small group teaching**

Using the Music Mark guidance included above, negotiate with LMTs to find appropriately sized groups for suitable rooms, dependent upon the type of instrument. We understand that this may reduce group sizes significantly.

- Should group sizes be reduced, then the frequency of lessons for pupils can be reduced. For example, if a group that would normally be 6 pupils has to be reduced to 3 pupils, then lessons could take place every other week on a rotation basis. Alternatively, these lessons could be blocked into longer visits by LMTs (see Option 1), so that LMTs only come in once a fortnight and work with a larger number of smaller groups.
- If only one-to-one provision is considered possible then please contact Dynamics to discuss this request.

### **4. Working with bubbles**

Some scheduled LMT provision will be planned for more than one bubble within a school. We understand this may not be possible, so we would be open to flexibility within and across bubbles.

*Example*

- *An LMT working with Year 3 and Year 4, who are in separate bubbles, could work with each year group for an extended session on alternate weeks.*
- *Alternatively, an LMT could limit their work to one bubble, working with smaller groups, in the short term.*

### **5. Online learning**

If in person provision is not deemed possible, we would be happy for schools to discuss online delivery models with their LMTs using funding from the Dynamics Wider Opportunities programme. We ask that LMTs contact Dynamics with the proposed delivery plan before this begins to ensure it meets funding requirements.

We hope that one or a mixture of these options, in negotiation with your Licensed Music Teacher, and with reference to the Music Mark guidelines, will provide a safe solution for specialist music provision.

Please contact us if none of the above options work within your circumstances or if you have any questions: [office@dynamicmedway.co.uk](mailto:office@dynamicmedway.co.uk)

**UPDATED 21 April 2021**

**Instruments**

Music Mark has produced detailed guidance on the cleaning of instruments, which also contains links to additional information, in the document *Guidance for Providers*:

<https://www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/music-unlocked-guidance-for-schools-and-music-providers/>

**Notes for Licensed Music Teachers**

We ask that you keep Dynamics updated on how provision is being delivered at each school. This will inform further allocations of funding and provide us with information for our funders Arts Council England, who are regularly doing Music Hub surveys.

We would encourage LMTs to contact their schools if they have not reached an agreement on provision, to discuss the possibilities, including online delivery.