

# MEH MUSIC EDUCATION HUBS EAST MIDLANDS

MEHEM SUMMER CONFERENCE 2022, FRIDAY 1 JULY

*Singing at the heart of what we do*

## Workshop descriptions

Please select one workshop choice per session.

Recordings of all sessions will be made available after the conference to enable delegates to access any other sessions they are interested in.

### Workshop 1 choices: 11:00 – 12:00

**EYFS: *From rhyme to song? Singing with children in the Early Years* (Sarah Wise)**

Using early findings from an ongoing Youth Music funded project on embedding musical learning in the everyday life of settings, this session will share ideas for exploring and developing vocal sound with young children. A practical session for subject leads and Early Years practitioners.

- a. When/if/how to intervene in spontaneous vocal play
- b. The place of traditional rhymes and melodies
- c. Planning for the development of pitch matching skills
- d. EAL and SEND considerations

**Primary: *Developing the non-specialist teacher* (Rachel Wilkes)**

Boost your confidence to initiate, deliver and develop singing activities in the classroom.

**Secondary: *Singing at the heart of the Music Curriculum at KS3* (Anna Jenkins)**

We all know singing helps to develop the 'inner ear' for musicians, and develops confidence in expressing musical ideas, but how do we embed singing at the heart of everything we do in the music classroom? Singing can bring an immense amount of joy and belonging when managed successfully but can also feel exposing for both students and teachers when things go wrong. The prevalent and sensationalized 'X Factor culture' with a binary divide between lauded success and mocked failure can result in students categorizing themselves as non-singers. It is therefore our duty to work hard to ensure all students know they have a worthy singing voice and feel natural using it. This session will offer practical strategies and tried and tested approaches to threading singing through your entire music curriculum and, in turn, across your school.

**SEND: *Singing in the special school* (Rachel Beckett)**

A session aimed at generalist teachers in special schools that models how to initiate, develop and deliver singing activities with confidence and understanding. Notes, resources and approaches will be shared with delegates.

**Vocal Teachers: *The unconditional vocal teacher* (Beth Hodgson)**

A session aimed at vocal and choral leaders to focus the inspirational research from Paul Harris' *Unconditional teaching* method for singing teaching, workshops and choir rehearsals. What are our 'perfect conditions' for effective teaching? Does that mean our teaching isn't as effective without these conditions? This session aims to break down the barriers and conditions for effective vocal delivery to support more inclusive and positive learning.

## Workshop 2 choices: 12.15 – 13.15

**Primary: *Developing musical concepts through singing and listening for KS1 - Using the Model Music Curriculum as your starting point* (Graham Drummond)**

How can teachers, especially non music specialist teachers, develop musical concepts using singing and listening? Using examples from the Model Music Curriculum, this workshop will give teachers an insight into identifying relevant musical concepts to develop in lessons and show you ways in which you can combine listening and singing activities to aid learning and understanding of these concepts. The session will also touch on what progression could look like, moving into Year 3.

**Primary: *Creating a singing school* (Lucy Reid)**

This session will offer helpful advice and strategies to embed singing into the core of your school. Co-presented by Lucy and teachers from a primary school, this session aims to support those on a journey to make singing an everyday occurrence where pupils and staff alike embrace opportunities to make that happen.

**Secondary: *Putting singing at the heart of curriculum delivery at KS4/5* (Hannah Wallis-Windle)**

In this interactive session we will be delving into the ways that singing can have a positive effect on a music department and indeed a school. This session will explore how singing can be positively used by music teachers and leaders in order to support the development of music in school settings. It will give positive suggestions and experiences to enhance curriculum development, culminating in a vibrant KS4 and 5.

**Secondary: *Upscaling your Choir* (Cat Vernon and Vanessa Hobart)**

In this workshop delegates will explore ways of engaging young people in choirs, with a focus on selecting repertoire, arrangement tools, warm up ideas and rehearsal techniques. In addition, delegates will consider ways to raise standards within their choir performances. Session suitable for KS3/4/5 and 11-18 yr old students.

**SEND: *Soundabout - making approaches to music making inclusive in SEND settings and contexts* (Emma Hughes from Soundabout)**

This session will explore the Soundabout ethos – purpose and aims of a choir, core values and how this can translate into any music making session. There will be a focus on how to make music inclusive: Musical elements we can explore, deconstructing songs, arrangements, inclusive ways to frame a session – techniques, pacing, space, structure etc.

**Vocal Teachers: *Supporting transgender singers* (Sophie Cooper)**

A supportive session for vocal leaders led by Sophie Cooper in association with Christella Antoni Voice & Speech services. Christella is one of the leading transgender voice therapists working in the UK and the session will cover both exercises and strategies for teaching transgender vocal students and hearing from transgender singers previously performing in Youth choirs.

## Workshop 3 choices: 13.45 – 14.45

**Primary: *Songs as springboards to creativity at KS1* (Sue Nicholls )**

In this workshop delegates will explore ways of linking songs to composing activities – developing and expanding musical ideas into creative outcomes, involving improvisation, musical structure, simple song creation and instrumental skills. Notes and support materials will be available on each MEHEM website. If attending this session, please specify on the form whether you will be bringing a tuned percussion instrument, untuned percussion instrument, other instrument (please specify) or voice.

**Primary: *Developing the classroom specialist* (Rebecca Beavis)**

Are you a music lead who is looking for ways to engage the school in building a creative, fun and progressive music provision? Would you like to build a whole-school vocal strategy, or are you perhaps a class teacher who wants to know next steps? This session offers practical advice and support for planning, monitoring, CPD, managing a whole-school provision and supporting non-specialists to feel empowered. The session will have vocal focus but is appropriate to building a wider provision and is suitable for all KS2 practitioners.

Join Rebecca Beavis (Arts Director and Music lead for Platinum Artsmark School Bourne Westfield Primary Academy) for a session which will offer handy tips and advice for both building whole-school provision as a subject lead and anyone interested in developing their own practice. The session is suitable for specialists and non-specialists alike.

**Secondary: *How to get and keep boys singing at KS3/4* (Simon Lubowski)**

Tricks and tips to get boys singing, including how to keep them engaged and involved, myths around boys singing, sharing ideas and making a plan for your pupils.

**Vocal Teachers: *Singing Teachers open forum* (Chaired by Beth Hodgson)**

A chance for vocal/choral leaders to seek support, advice and ideas from a panel of deliverers working in Music Education with specialisms ranging from *Raising the profile of choral singing in schools* to *Sourcing a diverse repertoire for the singing student*. Please use the form to write any questions you may have for the panel to discuss ahead of the conference.