

Southampton Music Services as Music Education Hub Lead Organisation

Report

Overview

This report sets out evidence from the existing work of SMS which supports its request to apply to be the new Hub Lead Organisation for the South Coast Music Hub.

This includes SMS's track record of:

- **Securing Investment and Value**
- **Strategic Leadership and Partnerships**
- **Cultural Development and Co-Creation**
- **Improving Inclusion and Diversity**
- **Digital Transformation**
- **Alignment with Council Priorities**
- **Support and Endorsements**
- **Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People**

NPME2 sets out the framework for new hub lead organisations, including a vision, three aims, and five strategic priorities. These are:

- The vision for Music Hub partnerships, in line with the overall NPME, is to enable all children and young people to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together, and have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talents, including professionally.
- The three aims:
 - Support schools and other education settings to deliver high-quality music education
 - Support all children and young people to engage with a range of musical opportunities in and out of school
 - Support young people to develop their musical interests and talents further, including into employment
- The five strategic principles:
 - Partnership
 - Schools
 - Progression and musical development
 - Inclusion
 - Sustainability

Securing Investment and Value

Since 2012, SMS has secured significant financial investments into the city, including:

- £5 million from the Music Hub Education Grant

- £556,00 in additional grant funding, including notable project:
 - £65,000 from Paul Hamlyn Foundation to co-create a rap and literacy curriculum
 - £165,000 from Youth Music to lead regional Youth Voice projects
 - £30,000 from Arts Council England to develop a more diverse, digital music workforce
- An estimated £2 million - in leveraged funding
- Immeasurable in-kind value from the contributions of young people, families, and schools to the musical and cultural lives of their communities

SMS has a strong track record of procuring high quality specialist music provision in a way which ensures excellent value for money and delivers improved outcomes for children and young people.

SMS has a strong, proven track record of securing additional funding to ensure the sustainability of its work and improve outcomes for children and young people in challenging circumstances and from underrepresented backgrounds.

Strategic Leadership and Partnerships

SMS has a proven track record of local, regional and national leadership in the areas of music education, music technology, and inclusion.

- Chair of the Music Mark, South West Music Education Hub
- Steering Group Member for Young Southampton
- Trustee of Island Collective
- Chair of IOW Cultural Education Partnership
- Chair of Southampton Cultural Education Partnership

In its leadership of Southampton and IOW Music Hubs, SMS has demonstrated a strong and proven track record of organisational transformation, community engagement and partnership development. This has included demonstrating the leadership required to develop better workforce and organisational resources, expertise and culture, as well as wide stakeholder and community engagement to ensure a more inclusive and representative approach to partnerships. Through a range of innovative approaches, we seek to develop inclusion, participation and progression pathways for all children, involving young people in making, shaping and leading the music that they are making. Our ambition is to ensure equality of opportunity irrespective of where children live or their personal circumstances taking action to reach those under represented and under served.

SMS works with a broad and diverse range of partnerships within the music and cultural sector, with over 60 hub partners ranging from Art Asia to New Carnival Company, from Southampton Music Trust to Brenda James Foundation, from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra to Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Through these dynamic partnerships and a commitment to improving quality,

Southampton Music Hub provides life changing musical experiences for CYP. These partnerships are built through collaboration and collective impact; sustainable, proper relationships that resonate with the needs of pupils at their heart. Together, we have created a lasting legacy of musical engagement and realise an ambitious agenda that maximises audience development and reflects the cultural and artistic diversity of the communities we serve.

SMS has strong working relationships with inclusion services, including Virtual Schools, Social Work Teams, Youth Offending Teams, Saints Foundation, and more. SMS also supports education through regional delivery of Primary and Secondary School panel meetings, working with individual schools to develop music education delivery and engaging with Multi-Academy Trusts to develop trust-wide music education plans. Through supporting and delivering music in schools and the community, Southampton Music Hub strives to ensure that every child can access the regular music making and inspirational experiences that drives long lasting, meaningful change.

SMS has delivered national training programmes in music technology and inclusion, including sharing pioneering approaches to creating music, developing successful inclusion partnerships, and co-creating work with children and young people.

Cultural Development and Co-Creation

Southampton Music Services has a key role as a cultural leader within the city, including:

- Chair of Southampton Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP)
- Chair of IOW Cultural Education Partnership
- Contributing the city's cultural strategy, including supporting city of culture bid
- Trustee of Island Collective

SMS also demonstrates strong community engagement, identifying and developing small organisations and members of the community to ensure that the workforce which supports children and young people is more diverse, more inclusive, and more reflective of all the communities it represents.

SMS also has developed pioneering approaches to co-creation with children, young people, schools and communities. This approach unlocks the creativity and potential under-represented voices, and empowers those involved to make meaningful change in their schools and communities. This work includes:

- Co-creating a rap and literacy curriculum
- Supporting SCEP to co-construct three new creative curriculums
- Youth-led programming
- Co-creating a local response to NPME2

- Creating employment opportunities for young people through apprenticeships and specific roles for young people, including within project management

Improving Inclusion and Diversity

SMS has a strong track record of delivering greater inclusion and diversity for children, young people, and the workforce which supports them. As a result, SMS leads local and regional partnership work in the areas of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

SMS leadership includes:

- Chair of the Music Mark, South West Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
- Leading and securing £165,000 in funding for the South West Coastal Hub Alliance, Youth Voice Network

SMS's work with Children and Young People includes:

- The 'Digital Native Artists (DNA) programme which supports young digital artists with mentoring, support and resources, including those from challenging circumstances
- Support for SEND and Alternative Provision settings
- Working in partnership with inclusion services and the voluntary sector
- Securing funding for work with children and young people in challenging circumstances
- Empowering young people to make, shape and lead music
- Empowering young people to share their music and the music of others

SMS's work with partners, communities and the workforce includes:

- Working with a diverse range of partners from across a wide range of communities and musical backgrounds
- Supporting the development of small organisations and community musicians from under-represented backgrounds, helping them develop the skills to enter and build sustainable careers in the music education workforce

Digital Transformation

SMS has invested significantly in the development of digital and hybrid resources, building organisational capacity and expertise for more sustainable, environmentally responsible and cost-effective delivery models. This includes:

- 10 Minute Sign & Sing — inclusive video resources to teach singing and sign language in schools
- Music Technology — video and digital resources to support delivery of music technology in schools
- Online Lessons and Music Mentoring — bringing specialist provision to children and young people in isolated settings (rural isolation, secure living, home education and more)

Alignment with Council Priorities

Much of the work SMS undertakes has strong alignment with Southampton City Council priorities, including:

- Child Friendly City — by empowering young people to have a greater voice, making a positive contribution to their communities through music, and fulfilling their potential
- Cultural Strategy — by empowering the every-day creativity of children and young people, working in partnership to ensure every child has access to high quality, life-changing cultural education and experiences
- Our Green City — by pioneering digital and hybrid delivery, and helping schools develop a thriving musical and cultural life on the doorstep of every community
- Councils Education Strategy – contributing to all four priorities, with our current strategy underpinning the achievement of these priorities either directly or indirectly

Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People

All of the work outlined above, is in service of improving outcomes for children and young people. SMS works to ensure that every child, whatever their background or circumstance, has the opportunity to achieve their musical ambitions. SMS also has a strong, and proven track record of supporting children and young people to develop themselves holistically through music-making: building the personal, social and transferable skills which help them fulfil their potential in music, and beyond.