



Gwasanaeth Cerdd
Cenedlaethol Cymru
National Music
Service Wales

CLILC
WLGA

NWMC

North Wales Music Co-operative PROSPECTUS 2024/25



North Wales Music Co-operative
Cerdd Cydweithredol Gogledd Cymru

A FRESH APPROACH TO MUSIC PROVISION

The North Wales Music Co-operative is an award-winning, not-for-profit organisation providing high quality music provision across the counties of

Denbighshire, Wrexham and Conwy.

For all ages and abilities, we aim to:

Inspire a love of music

Promote the enjoyment of music

Develop musical talent and skill

WHAT WE DO

We work closely with Schools, Local Authorities and Voluntary Organisations to deliver a comprehensive musical offer across the region that includes:

In-School Lessons

- Delivering bilingual vocal and instrumental lessons for pupils from Primary School age to Sixth Form
- We offer lessons on all instruments and voice, from beginner through to Diploma level

Ensembles

- We offer a variety of ensembles and choirs during and after school with annual concerts for each
- Our ensembles meet weekly during term time and are located across both counties, and these range from traditional to rock and pop

Well-being Courses

- We offer a variety of workshops and events throughout the year to support wellbeing through Music. During summer and school holidays, we also run a wide range of music and well-being courses that are open to all children and young people across North Wales

Community Projects

- We support a wide range of community music projects that enable people of all ages to participate, perform and enjoy music. We are very proud of our Community Projects, many of which are vital to our communities and serve to bring people together through music

The North Wales Music Co-operative fully supports the work of the National Music Service for Wales and the implementation of the National Music Education Plan. We work closely with neighbouring services to achieve consistent approaches and to share best practice.

Our work reflects the following national priorities:

- **Promoting & Developing Music In Schools**
- **Supporting Schools, Settings and Wider Communities**
- **Promoting & Developing Music Outside Schools**

Music In Schools

Programme of work: First Experiences

Primary schools, special schools
and other education settings (ages 3 to 11).

Promoting
equality by
ensuring access
for all learners to
music

Supporting
schools and
settings

Programme of work: Music Pathways

Secondary schools, special schools
and other education settings (11 to 16) .

Improving
health and well
-being through
music

Connecting music
industry with
higher education
and lifelong
learning

Programme of work: Music Tuition

Primary and secondary schools, special
schools and other education settings.

Promoting
equality by
ensuring access
for all learners to
music

Connecting music
industry with
higher education
and lifelong
learning

Programme of work: Live music experiences

All education settings, including special
schools.

Improving
health and well
-being through
music

Building
stronger music
learning
communities

Supporting schools, settings and wider communities

Programme of work: Professional learning support for music services, classroom practitioners and wider music education partners.

Supporting schools and settings

Increasing diversity and representation in music education workforce

Programme of work: Improving equity, diversity and inclusion
Schools, settings and wider communities.

Increasing diversity and representation in music education workforce

Building stronger music learning communities

Programme of work: Music for lifelong learning, health and well-being
Schools, settings and wider communities.

Improving health and well-being through music

Increasing diversity and representation in music education workforce

Music outside of schools

Programme of work:
Making music with others - activities and ensembles.

Promoting equality by ensuring access for all learners

Building stronger music learning communities

Programme of work:
Making music with others - performing and creative industries.

Connecting music industry with higher education and lifelong learning

Improving health and well-being through music

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY PUPILS

Inspiration

All Year 3 pupils across our services enjoy the First Experiences Programme, which gives them an opportunity each half term to sample a range of different musical activities that include: Samba, P-Buzz, Singing, Songwriting & Composition, Recorder and Ukelele.

All Primary and Year 7 pupils also have the opportunity to enjoy Live Music Experiences and hear the 'Make Some Noise' Band each September, as they perform a different, live, themed concert each year. The purpose of the show is to showcase a wide range of musical instruments being performed across a range of musical styles. In Secondary schools this is followed by a programme of taster sessions that allows pupils to try different instruments before they sign up for lessons.

In 2024 the band played to 137 schools and the tour resulted in a significant increase in the uptake of music lessons across the region.

In-School Lessons

Our service provides expert tuition for all musical instruments and vocals, supporting pupils to progress through Trinity, ABRSM and other examination boards, should they wish. Parents are able to register their preferences either with their child's school or by using our dedicated Opus portal.

In addition, as part of the Music Pathways Programme, we provide specialist tuition for secondary pupils following GCSE, A Level and BTEC music courses. This means that they receive additional support with the performance elements of their coursework and this is subsidised through the National Music Education Plan.

In School Extra-Curricular Activities

Our service also supports schools by delivering a range of school-based extra curricular activities that take place either during the school day or immediately after school. These include establishing & tutoring bands, choirs, school ensembles, as well as supporting pupils for the Urdd Eisteddfod and other competitions.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY PUPILS

Wider Musical Opportunities

The North Wales Music Service works across the region to give pupils the opportunity to take part in county, regional and national choirs, bands and ensembles, and to compete and perform at all levels. By doing so, this provides our young musicians with further opportunities to Make Music with Others as well as further progression routes into the Performing & Creative Industries.

Just as important, these experiences give our students the opportunities to meet new people and make new friends outside school.

Our range of ensembles include:

Coastal Choir	Senior String Ensemble	Rock & Pop Band	Senior Percussion Ensemble
Harp Ensemble	Junior String Ensemble	Jam Shed	Junior Percussion Ensemble
County Youth Choir	Brighter Futures - Brass	Bellevue Community Youth Band	Blast Off! - Wind Band
Brighter Futures - Woodwind			

From September 2025 we will work with Flintshire and provide the Four-Counties Ensembles for pupils Grade 3 and over.

Well-being Courses

During school holidays, our service provides a wide range of music and Well-being courses that are open to all children and young people across North Wales. These combine musical and sporting activities that are based in partner schools across the region, and places can be booked by parents or guardians, using our website.

We also work with key partners such as schools and Social Services to ensure that vulnerable groups have access to this inclusive provision.

WIDER SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS AND DEVELOPING AREAS OF WORK

Bespoke Teaching & Learning Packages

Our service has already been working with Primary schools in developing music education for Foundation Phase pupils, but we are now increasingly working with schools to support the delivery of the Expressive Arts within the new Curriculum for Wales. Since a number of schools do not have specialist music teachers, our service is able to provide this expertise with tailored packages of tuition that support and complement the wider school curriculum. We also provide Professional Learning opportunities to help teachers develop their own skills and knowledge in this area of work.

Inclusion & Additional Learning Needs

The North Wales Music Service works closely with a range of Special Schools and alternative education providers across the region to give pupils the opportunity to enjoy music and to develop their creative and expressive skills. More recently, the service has been awarded a grant to expand music provision for children with autism.

Music Therapy

We provide a music therapy service, which is an HCPC regulated profession where therapists work alongside schools and health care professionals such as speech and language therapists and physiotherapists, to provide an holistic, joined-up approach to care.

Support For Home-Schooled Children

Home-schooled children often experience difficulties in accessing a broad curriculum, and our service has been able to provide 1:1 tuition to allow young people to either develop or continue their interest in music.

Targeted Support for Vulnerable & Disadvantaged Groups

Our service has a successful track record in securing grants to provide bespoke packages for the most vulnerable pupils in our region. This means that our service can support individual schools and Local Authorities to meet the changing needs of pupils as they arise.

MAKING MUSIC ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL

Musical Instruments

We loan instruments free of charge to all our pupils which means that the purchase cost should never be a deterrent to parents considering music lessons. Our service also loans class sets of instruments to individual schools on request, though this is always subject to availability.

Affordability

We work closely with the National Music Service and our partner Local Authorities and schools to provide free or subsidised music tuition to the most disadvantaged young people, and in line with the National Music Education plan for Wales, we offer subsidised vocal and instrumental tuition for those pupils studying GCSE, A Level or BTEC music courses. Our ensembles are also free to access for all our pupils.

We also offer affordable payment plans to parents & guardians, which means that the cost of lessons can be spread out and further details are available on our website.

Signing Up For Lessons

Direct Bookings

In some schools the administration of music lessons is undertaken by our service. In this instance, parents & guardians can access our dedicated booking system - Opus. This is a fully bilingual service where parents & guardians can clearly see what packages are on offer, book music lessons and receive and pay invoices directly.

This system also allows parents & guardians to access additional services, such as weekly ensembles, annual summer schools, well-being courses in half-terms and music exam visits. Please note some admin charges may apply.

School Based Bookings

For these schools, all of the above are booked directly by speaking to a member of staff such as the school secretary, or Head of Music. Each school offers a different range of music lesson packages, and different subsidies are available.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Inspire, Enjoy & Flourish

Our service is committed to supporting communities across North Wales by providing opportunities for people of all ages to come together and enjoy music. Each year we celebrate the successes of our community projects in our annual Gala Concert, and the following are a selection of our most recent projects:

The Bellevue Community Youth Band

Founded in 2021, the band is a grass roots community music project run by a small group of dedicated brass and percussion tutors from WMC. The aim is to provide free music-making opportunities to pupils outside of school, and by doing so, bringing young people together and helping build a strong and cohesive community.

Côr Nant Clwyd

Côr Nant Clwyd is a new mixed voice choir which formed in October 2022 for people aged 30 years and over. They were established to bring people together to have fun, socialise and enjoy singing together. The choir is one of the music co-operative's community partners and DMC have supported them by providing a piano for their rehearsals.

City of Wrexham Brass Band

The City of Wrexham Brass Band is sponsored by Wrexham Music Cooperative as part of the co-operative's community partner initiative. They are an exciting, welcoming, and progressive band who fly the flag for Wrexham's strong brass band heritage.

Signing Sensations

Signing Sensations are a sign language choir and have members aged between 14 and 25 years. They practice 2 days per week during term-time and have performed widely over the past few years, including Focus Wales, at Wrexham Football Ground and they also took part in Britain's Got Talent, reaching the first 2 stages.

Commando X-Fit Community Interest Company

Our service has enjoyed a ten-year partnership with Commando X-Fit that are based in Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy, by providing engaging and motivational opportunities for young people through Sport, Physical Exercise and Music.

ABOUT US

Our Members

The North Wales Music Co-Operative comprises over 60 members that work across the region providing bilingual music tuition to Primary and Secondary schools and Voluntary Groups.

Our team of tutors are well qualified and highly experienced professional musicians, and outside their teaching commitments many work across Television & Radio and appear in commercial concerts.

The Central Team

Patron	Professor Paul Mealor
Chairman	Councillor Mark Young
Head Of Service	Heather Powell
Denbighshire Manager	Wyn Pearson
Wrexham Manager	Scott Lloyd
Conwy Manager	TBC
Office Manager	Ffion Roberts
Office Administrator	Lewis Pearson
Asset Manager	Mathew Roberts
Social Media Administrator	Dylan Cernyw
Company Translator	Eifion Lloyd Jones

The Board of Directors

Mr Jacob Hamblett	Mr Aled Williams	Mrs Tina Boycott
Mr Wyn Pearson	Mr Scott Lloyd	Mr Joe Pearson

Our Partner Organisations

We work closely with a wide range of partners that include the North Wales Local Authorities, Schools, the National Music Service for Wales, National Youth Arts Wales, Music Mark, Charanga, CAGAC, AIMS and Commando X Fit Wales.

RAISING STANDARDS

Quality Assurance

Our tutors receive regular supportive visits by our most experienced tutors to ensure the highest standards of tuition.

Information for Pupils, Parents & Guardians

All our pupils receive an annual report that identifies the progress they have made and the areas for further development.

Our annual parents' evening also gives parents & guardians the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with our tutors.

Safeguarding & Child Protection

We have robust Safeguarding & Child Protection policies in place together with a designated safeguarding lead.

All members receive annual training covering these areas and all of our members are registered with the Education Workforce Council and hold an enhanced DBS check.

Member Training & Support

Local, regional and national training opportunities are provided for all our members together with an annual conference that covers a range of training and information sharing items.

Mentoring Programme

Our service works with a range of Higher Education institutions to identify, engage and nurture young musicians to work in the music industry. We then offer continued professional support for new members of the co-operative.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

We are working in partnership with CULT Cymru to provide a Mental Health First Aider programme that will recognise and support the mental health needs of freelance, lone-working professionals.

OUR AWARD WINNING SERVICE

The following are some examples of our most recent awards:

- **UK Education Awards 2023 – Most innovative**
- **Music and Drama Education Awards 2023 – Finalist**
- **Daily Post Community Business Award Winner**
- **Social Enterprise Wales One to Watch Award 2021**
- **School Music Award – Education Business Awards 2023**

CONTACTS

Denbighshire Music Co-operative

- Website: www.denbighshiremusic.com Tel: 01745 813542

Wrexham Music Co-operative

- Website: www.wrexhammusic.com Tel: 01978 784256

Conwy Music Co-operative

- Website: www.conwymusic.com Tel: 01492 685497

Other Useful Links

- Music Mania (for details of our extra-curricular activities):
www.musicmania.education
- Totally Music Platform (our online resource for pupils, parents and schools): www.totally-music.com
- Association of Independent Music Services (AIMS):
www.theaims.co.uk
- National Music Service for Wales: www.musicservice.wales