



# Ark Music

## Professional development and curriculum programme

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*Key stage 3*



# About us

**Ark Music aims to improve the way curriculum music is taught in schools.**

High quality music making stimulates personal, emotional and intellectual development. Given the right conditions, we believe that every child can be a musician, and through this enjoy better chances in life.

Our approach gives students the chance to engage with music from a breadth of traditions and cultures as performers, composers and critical listeners. This develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours they need both to succeed academically and to enjoy music for their whole lives.

To achieve this, we provide partner schools with a programme of **subject-specific training**, **a music curriculum** and **lesson materials** that support, enable and enhance classroom teaching.

Our programmes draw on the experience of helping thousands of students and dozens of teachers in 22 Ark primary and secondary schools, and we are now looking to share our experience beyond the network.



# How do we do it?

**Our professional development and curriculum programme has been informed, delivered and refined by music teachers in a breadth of schools. Their experience has contributed to the development of the programme as a practical and powerful driver of pupil achievement.**

**Our approach to learning embraces these principles:**

## **A cumulative, knowledge-rich curriculum**

Our curriculum is designed to consolidate and extend musical knowledge and skills in a sequential and connected manner.

## **Practical application of theoretical concepts**

In practice, the teaching of knowledge and skills is integrated to create a deeper classroom learning experience.

## **Assessment practices that underpin musical learning**

Assessment tasks probe theoretical knowledge and practical skills, and mirror a breadth of ways in which musicians might work within the industry. Assessment practices provide teachers and learners with timely information that can be used to shape future learning.

## **Developing community-minded learners**

Opportunities to teach and reflect on behaviours that will secure a safe and successful learning community are woven into schemes of work. The music selected for study encourages pupils to explore historical and contemporary issues and consider their own contribution to society.

# What does the programme include?

We combine five strands of activity that work together to transform music in the classroom.



1

## Professional development

Every partner school is expected to send staff to our termly subject-specific training events that focus on the curriculum knowledge and skills teachers will teach to their own pupils, and the practice and pedagogy they might employ to do this.

2

## Lesson plans and teaching materials

Music departments are given access to our online resource library where they can find schemes of work, lesson plans, PowerPoint presentations, pupil workbooks and other supporting materials.

3

## Departmental planning materials

Each scheme of work is accompanied by a planning guide that invites teachers to consider how they will tailor teaching and learning to suit the specific needs of their pupils and available classroom facilities.



4

## Specialist in-school support

No two schools are the same, and that's why every partner school is assigned an Ark Music link to provide bespoke support. Your Ark Music link (a secondary school music specialist) will visit once per term to ensure the programme is being implemented to have the maximum impact in your school.

5

## An integrated assessment model

Teachers can access a bank of marked exemplar work to guide their own assessment of student achievement. They also have the opportunity to attend two 'moderation' sessions, comparing outcomes with other schools to bring greater rigour to the benchmarking process.

# What people say

**The Ark Music curriculum is well structured** and provides a learning journey for pupils that builds essential skills and knowledge. Assessment tasks are practical, applicable and adaptable for all students.

**Frances Green, Head of Music,  
Ark Elvin Academy**

Since joining the programme students have made rapid progress. They are developing a much deeper musical knowledge and are starting to apply this across lessons.

**Grace Bermingham, NQT,  
Ark Victoria**

*Having common assessment tasks across a number of schools has allowed us to benchmark pupil outcomes far more accurately than would have been the case working as an individual school.*

**The moderation days have provided a very high quality CPD experience.**

**Frank Marshall, Head of Music,  
Ark Putney Academy**

**Music is my favourite subject.** I really like that lessons are practical and that we get to play different instruments and different kinds of music. I know loads of things that I didn't know before.

**Leon,  
Year 8 student in participating school**

**The training attached to the programme has been very valuable.** It is often assumed that a music teacher is a jack of all trades, however, this is rarely the case, and it has been refreshing to learn new skills.

**Florence Glen,  
Ark Teacher Trainee**

# Your launch



## Summer

### *Getting ready*

Your school music lead and up to two additional teachers attend a day-long Ark Music induction training.



## Autumn term

### *In-school launch*

The programme launches and pupils experience their first Ark Music lessons.

The Ark Music link will visit your school to support your music lead with programme implementation.

Your school music lead and up to two additional teachers attend a subject-specific training session, designed to develop subject and assessment expertise.

## Spring term

### *Honing implementation*

The Ark Music link visits your school for a second time to build on the work from the first visit and provide bespoke training or coaching if requested by the school.

Your school music lead and up to two additional teachers attend a subject-specific training session, designed to develop subject and assessment expertise.

## Summer term

### *Evaluation of year one*

The Ark Music link visits your school for a third and final time, providing bespoke support as helpful.

Your school music lead and up to two additional teachers attend a subject-specific training session, designed to develop subject and assessment expertise.

Evaluation of year one and preparation for rolling the programme into Year 8.



# Programme costs

For 2019-2020, membership to our **standard programme** costs **£6500 in the first year**.

We are non-profit, and your contributions go directly towards delivering and developing the programme.

## This includes:

- Induction
- The Ark Music curriculum map
- Complete classroom teaching resources for Year 7\*
- Departmental planning materials
- An integrated assessment model
- Three school visits from an Ark Music link – a specialist in secondary school music education
- Three professional development sessions designed to develop subject and assessment expertise
- Opportunities to moderate pupil work with teachers from other schools
- Membership to the Ark Music community

An **enhanced programme** is available for schools that would enjoy more **intensive support**. This includes additional visits from a secondary school music specialist for a supplementary fee.

*\*Not including classroom instruments*



# Join today

**Developed over the past five years, our professional development and curriculum programmes for primary and secondary music are currently implemented in 22 Ark schools.**

From September 2019 we will have the capacity to work beyond the Ark network for the very first time and are seeking a group of schools keen to partner with us as we enter our next phase of growth.

## **Who we work with**

We welcome secondary schools of varying size, intake or academic performance. Our programme may be of particular interest to teachers working in small departments, keen to develop their practice within a vibrant learning community, or schools looking to refresh their music curriculum and schemes of work.

## **Get in touch**

For further information about our programme, or to discuss a package of support appropriate to your need and context, please email [music@arkonline.org](mailto:music@arkonline.org) and a member of our team will be in touch.

## Other Ark Music programmes

### **Professional development programme with curriculum resources (EYFS and KS1)**

We train and mentor non-specialist primary school teachers, helping them to acquire the knowledge, skills and tools they need to teach music effectively and with confidence. Our song-based curriculum embraces play-based learning in the Early Years, whilst at Key Stage 1 more explicit teaching introduces pupils to the building blocks of music that shape the world around them.

### **Instrumental learning programme (KS2)**

We provide schools with experienced musician-educators who deliver whole-class instrumental lessons on a weekly basis. Our curricula lead pupils to establish a secure playing technique, explore creative ideas and develop musical understanding.



# Ark Music



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