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York Music Hub Funding Opportunity for School Clusters 2017-18

Introduction

York Music Hub (YMH) is committed to working in partnership to provide the best possible opportunities for children and young people to achieve their musical potential.

YMH is seeking to further engage partners by commissioning new music activity from Hub partners and, as such, encouraging a greater diversity of providers, opportunities to develop new and innovative ideas, improve quality, share best practice, maximise resources and secure greater sustainability of music provision for the benefit of the community. As part of the approach to commissioning, the YMH is inviting proposals from school clusters for funding to deliver activities which meet the Hub's aims.

School clusters are invited to submit one proposal for up to a maximum of £1500 for activity to be delivered during the academic year 2017-18.

The responsibility for music education rests with schools and it is for schools to allocate the necessary resources to deliver the core curriculum and high quality music provision. This funding is about additionality over and above the core curriculum. We are keen to work with school clusters to maximise the impact of the resources available to schools, drawing together the resources available in individual schools with Hub funding.

We have set out below the background information, process and timetable for applying for funding.

Background and Context

All proposals must support the National Plan for Music Education (NPME) and the vision and mission for the YMH, which is:

- To develop sustainable, high quality and diverse musical experiences providing first access and coherent progression paths for all children and young people in the City of York;
- To enhance the education, life experiences and self-confidence of all children and young people through music;
- To develop sustainable and innovative partnerships

Needs and issues

Proposals should take into account and reflect the needs and issues identified from research conducted by YMH in 2012 and the outcomes from the York Schools' Music Research Project, completed in autumn 2014 on behalf of the Hub by York St John University. In summary, the headline issues identified were:

- Lack of music specialists in some primary schools, and linked to this
 - The need to develop more expert capacity across schools
 - The need to support/provide resources for non-music specialists
 - The need for a greater focus on continuing professional development
 - The need to share expertise and best practice
- Weaknesses in approaches to singing and lack of availability of a range of singing opportunities (particularly for boys)
- Music and new technology - limited opportunities for development particularly in primary schools, and lack of time, capacity and skills to develop
- Availability and range of instruments in individual schools is variable and a lack of available technical support
- More opportunities to bring performing artists/professionals/groups into schools
- More opportunities for children to get involved in performing/specialist events

Details of the 2014 research are available on the Hub website <http://yorkmusichub.org.uk/>

Key Criteria

Proposals will need to meet the following key criteria:

- To be for musical activities for 0 – 18 year olds living and/or at school in York; (For SEND and other disadvantaged young people the upper age limit is 25)
- Fit with the core and extension roles of the NPME;
- Fit with the aims and activities of the YMH;
- Be in response to an identified need or gap in provision either as described in the Hub's own research or a need/gap which the school cluster can demonstrate including through feedback from children and young people;
- Be in support of 'new' and innovative activity i.e. existing activities will not be supported, except where additionality is demonstrated;
- Be inclusive;
- Have the potential to be sustainable beyond the lifetime of the funding;
- Be a 'partnership' proposal, that is, from a group of schools (schools cluster). Bids from individual schools will not be accepted;
- Include a contribution from the schools within the cluster of a minimum of 10% (preference will be given to proposals with a higher %) i.e. the Hub will not 100% fund any activity. Contributions could include financial and/or in kind contributions;
- Be delivered by partners who can evidence the quality of their provision;
- Be suitable for, and show commitment to, wider dissemination across the wider Hub network to enable sharing of best practice

Funding is not available to support the following:

- Capital equipment alone
- Purchase of musical instruments
- Purchase of music copy/materials (except where these may be used for wider use)
- Cover for teaching staff
- School curriculum activity that is already funded

Developing Proposals

We want to make the process for partners to access funding as simple and straightforward as possible whilst ensuring appropriate safeguards are in place for ensuring that funding is used appropriately and effectively.

School clusters are invited to submit one proposal for up to a maximum of £1500.

One school must act as lead partner and will receive the total funding for redistribution.

Clusters should use the Proposal Form to tell us what activities they want to deliver; how they plan to deliver the activity and how much funding it will require.

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is expected that before a proposal is submitted, all parties (including music coordinators and heads of music) within any single cluster have been duly consulted. The Cluster Application will need to show that all appropriate staff have been consulted and agree to the proposal.

Assessing and agreeing proposals

Proposals will be reviewed and assessed by a 'Commissioning Group' which will be a sub group of the YMH Strategy Group. The group will include at least three representatives from the Strategy Group including a representative from City of York Council (as accountable body for the YMH). Proposals will be assessed against the key criteria.

Timescales

There will be three opportunities to submit proposals as follows:

Notification	Application deadline	Decision	Project Start
ROUND 1 17/7/17	11/8/17	18/8/17	Autumn + Xmas hols
ROUND 2 2/10/17	3/11/17	10/11/17	Spring + Easter hols
ROUND 3 19/2/18	23/3/18	30/3/18	Summer + summer hols

Procurement and Contracting

All recipients of funding will be expected to sign a) the YMH Memorandum of Understanding and b) the YMH Delivery Partnership Agreement which will include details of the reporting schedule and payment arrangements. Payments will be made through the lead school.

Monitoring and Evaluation

All projects which receive funding will be required to complete a reporting and monitoring return which will capture the impact of the activity – to include how many children/young people, involved, age/key stage, impact, plan for sustainability etc.

Projects will also be required to use the YMH logo and promote the Hub web address on any publicity materials.

For more information contact:

Tim Brooks- Strategic Manager York Music Hub - tim.brooks@yorkmusicub.org.uk