

Mini Musicians

Project Aims

- To provide access to at least one hour of specialist weekly music teaching to all Reception and Year 1 pupils (2023/24 cohort) in ten Merton primary schools.
- To enable every child in the cohort within the ten pilot schools to explore their creative capacities, develop musically and academically, and gain a nationally recognised arts accreditation through an innovative composition and storytelling project during Spring / Summer 2025.
- To provide a fully funded, tailored support & training professional development programme in delivering high quality music sessions to staff and specialist tutors working in the pilot schools.
- To demonstrate a correlation between early musical intervention and the development of speech, language and social/emotional outcomes in children under 7 years old.

Project Outcomes & Deliverables

1. Provide access to high quality, weekly musical learning and instrumental tuition in school for circa six hundred Merton primary school pupils.
2. Devise and deliver 'Sing Out Your Story'; a composition and storytelling project for up to five hundred pupils in Year 1 & Year 2 during Spring / Summer 2025 culminating in a KS1 Music Festival in Summer 2025.
3. Enter all 2024/25 Year 1 & Year 2 pupils in the Mini Musicians cohort for a Trinity College London Awards and Certificates in Musical Development accreditation .
4. Work with Merton teachers, specialist tutors and additional adults in the ten pilot Merton schools to meaningfully develop their music teaching practice.
5. Publish a legacy resource bank of effective and engaging EYFS & KS1 songs, musical activities, music lesson plans, training materials and tips/advice - including a scheme of work for 'Sing Out Your Story' - to be made accessible to all specialist and non-specialist teaching staff in Merton schools
6. Produce a report on the impact of the project on pupils' musical, speech, language and social / emotional development and study if there is a correlation between pupils' musical and academic attainment during the programme.