

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To advance the education of the public, of the Forest of Dean and surrounding areas in the making of music, particularly children and young people.

### **THE VISION**

Our overall vision is to:

Help children and young people realise that they can make their own music.

Support those who most want to make music, but face the biggest barriers. Those who live in smaller houses and haven't got places to practice, those whose parents don't have two cars, or time to provide transport, or money for instruments, and those who don't have the confidence and don't believe they can achieve anything worthwhile.

Give children and young people control over the kinds of music that they create and enable them to perform, record and broadcast their music.

Encourage children and young people to build confidence, a sense of achievement and a wide range of life skills through engagement in music.

Work collaboratively to make most effective use of resources to achieve the vision and object.

Promote inclusion and equality of opportunities. Celebrate cultural diversity.

Work to the highest possible creative, educational and youth work standards.

### **ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE VISION**

What we do:

Provide training, expertise, opportunities, equipment, facilities and encouragement to help young people make their own music.

Make contact with children and young people, and provide tasters, through schools, youth centres and a wide range of other organisations including specialist groups, with the aims of creating the fullest possible access and changing the view that music is only for the few.

Provide more in depth activities in after school clubs, youth centres and other community buildings so that young people can build instrumental and vocal skills, create their own songs, form bands, record and prepare for performance.

Encourage independent learning and development in young people including helping them find places to rehearse and perform and activities to broaden their musical horizons.

Engage young people in decision making in all our work, including tutor appointments, project planning and equipment purchase.

Work in partnership with schools, youth centres, youth cafes, arts organisations etc. to create long term local access - within 10 miles of everyone, rather than just one specialist centre.

Support gigs by young bands by providing good quality PA and stage management – encourage young people to develop technical and promotional skills.

Engage marginalised young people in music making particularly those who have low levels of achievement at school, suffer unemployment or low status employment and who have low levels of confidence and self esteem. Carried out as part of all programmes, but also by linking with relevant organisations such as the LEA Out of Hours Learning team, Reintegration, Connexions, Youth Service and Schools SEN depts. and providing targeted work with individuals and small groups

Identify, support, train and develop a flexible team of local leaders for music activities, equipping them to run top quality sessions, use music technology equipment, work with challenging young people and also to be able to offer their skills independently of Music Makers.