



Agenda

Monday 5th

October 2026

Venue: Brownhills Ormiston Academy
Time: 4.30pm - 6pm
Host: Jack Pierce – Brownhills Ormiston Academy
Chair: David Taylor – Walsall Music Education Service

1. Apologies & Welcomes –

Present	
David Taylor (DT) - Chair	Walsall Music Education Service
Jack Pierce (JP) – Host (not in meeting)	Brownhills Ormiston Academy
Ross Doodson (RD) - Host	Brownhills Ormiston Academy
Jessica Harvey (JH)	St Thomas More Catholic School
Lis Fitzpatrick (LF)	St Thomas More Catholic School
Catherine Richards (CR)	The Streetly Academy
Charlotte Okunlola (CO)	Walsall Studio School
Catherine Boden (CB)	Hydesville Tower
Ruth Bains (RB)	Blue Coat Church of England Academy
Thomas Sissons (TS)	Grace Academy Darlaston
Ross Harrison (RH)	Willienhall E-ACT Academy
Ruth Crowson (RC)	Walsall Music Education Service
Steph Dufty (SD)	Walsall Music Education Service
Apologies:	
Melanie Cuthbert	Queen Mary Grammar School
Denise Rice	Queen Mary Grammar School
Hannah Watson	Queen Mary High School
Luke Garner	Joseph Leckie Academy
Stephen Hollis	Shire Oak Academy
Alexandra Feeley	Shire Oak Academy

2. Minutes

2.1 Apologies were made about not sending these out before this meeting and action taken to be sending them out with the updates from the current meeting.

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3. Matters Arising –

3.1 Many comments about the start of year business still in full swing.

3.2 TS – Introduced the charity ‘Restore The Music’ which you can apply for grants to help enable your music provision. <https://restorethemusicuk.com/>

3.3 Dates and CPD and host.

DT – led discussion on dates for meetings this year. The following was agreed:

Spring: Monday 25th January

Summer: Suggested Tuesday 15th June

St Thomas More (January) and Streetly (June) agreed for hosts

3.4 CPD Suggestions:

DT – read out CPD suggestions that had come from the sign up form:

- Transition – working with local primaries to develop standard moving up.
- Composing workshop for teaching high ability students at GCSE
- WCIT for non-specialist leader
- Year 9s singing
- Want ADHD training like mini muse

3.5 CPD TBC before the next meetings.

4. CPD - Building a Music Community (JP – Brownhills Ormiston Academy (Absent), RD – Brownhills Ormiston Academy (Head Teacher))

4.1 Students joining school in year 7 on much lower level in terms of musical development than 20 years ago.

4.2 This is a concern with the level heading towards y11 – 13

4.3 Brownhills have made central to their school development plan culture

4.4 School invested 100K in sports and arts to support this

4.5 This is moral purpose issue because whichever way you carve Walsall up it is deprived

4.6 Arts and culture at centre to change hearts and minds.

4.7 Need to get to know your local primaries – what is on offer musically, does it match yours and can you influence change and work together for the same goal.

4.8 Their vision is to encourage primaries in the area to buy into Walsall music service – for the high quality provision in comparison to competitors.

4.9 Music lead has time to link up with primaries, run band events and choir events regularly so that standards improve and the link becomes strong.

4.10 Strategy is key: What do you want in year 7 Can't have every instrument at first. What can you do well and start small with this.

4.11 This can then progress into linking this provision with primaries and building those ensemble links.

4.12 Build everything around performance and singing

4.13 To influence SLT use solid arguments that are higher than just pick me financially. Moral purpose, curriculum, impact on community.

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- 4.14 Have continually high expectations – they just did the Armed man with the school and other collaborators. They challenge students on taking instruments home.
- 4.15 Questions – TS 2 week time table which leads to low amount of hours across the year. RD Think about are you delivering the NC and MMC – take this to SLT as this is their responsibility.
- RD Carousel model shouldn't be supported
 - LF – moved away from carousel
 - RD – Easy place to start is a community choir and finding common peri teachers between your school and primaries.
 - LF - Travelling through Christmas linking up with your primary school with these ms events
 - LF - Can we plant more WW and B near St Thomas more?

5. Event Planning:

5.1 DT - High Scorers concert – developing the event next year and moving later.

Celebrate:

- Emilia – Classical guitar – Brownhills Ormiston
- Megan – Vocals – St Thomas More
- Kimi – Electric Guitar – Grace

5.2 DT - Travelling through Christmas – Meet the Music happened – How is work on rep going?

5.3 **DT Birmingham Royal Ballet** – rehearsal pianist visit – QMHS and QMGS

5.4 DT Piano Spotlight – led by Matt firkins – will be in spring and focus on giving pianists performance opportunities and a potential workshop.

5.5 DT Big Play with CBSO – TBC – Streetly, hydesvill, Grace want to be involved if possible.

5.6 DT Live music – as discussed will be some more dates.

6. Music Service and Hub Update (may merge with events/CPD depending on content) inc ACE updates here

6.1 CPD Sessions – All got handouts around this

6.2 Indian Drumming Music offer - Dhol, Tabala any other — what is going on in your schools? St Thomas have a child who plays dhol but none have any provision.

6.3 DT - SLAs/ additional capacity – the music service does have additional capacity. If you need it come and talk.

6.4 BCMH Events – Carols at the Waterfront; Harmony; KS3 Concerts at The Halls – No date

7. AoB