

FIRST EDITION · 2026

# GWS Music Hub

## Swindon & Wiltshire

# SCHOOLS GUIDE FOR SWINDON SCHOOLS

### Funding & Monitoring Framework

*Annual Grants, Tuition Bursaries & First Access Subsidies*

#### Swindon & Wiltshire

Supported by Arts Council England & Department for Education

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#### Inside this guide:

- ▶ About This Framework
- ▶ How Schools Apply (Portal Guide)
- ▶ Grant C — School Projects
- ▶ Grant D — Music Development
- ▶ Tuition Bursaries
- ▶ Eligibility & Quality Framework

## 01 — ABOUT THIS FRAMEWORK

# Understanding How We Fund Swindon Schools

*GWS Music Hub created this guide to help Swindon schools understand what funding grants are available and the ways we track and support grant recipients.*

We believe every child in Swindon deserves access to high-quality music education. Our funding framework is designed to remove barriers, support schools at every stage, and build a thriving musical community across the region.

All funding is subject to government allocation. Applications are reviewed by the Hub team in partnership with your Cluster Coordinator.

## 02 — HOW TO APPLY

# Apply Through the Glide Portal

*All applications — grants and bursaries — are managed through our online Glide Portal.*

## 01 Register as a Requester

Contact your Cluster Coordinator with the following details to be set up on the portal:

Field	Details Required
Name of Requester	Full name of the person submitting
Email Address	Contact email address of requester
Name of School	Full name of the school

## 02 Access the Portal

Visit the Glide Portal to begin your application:

**Glide Portal:** <https://wmc-subsidy-portal.glide.page>

## 03 Submit Your Application

Complete the application form within the portal. Ensure all fields are filled in accurately to avoid delays in processing.

**Need help?** Contact your Cluster Coordinator or the admin office if you experience any difficulties.

## Two Grants Available to Swindon Schools

*Subject to government funding, GSW Music Hub offers two grants relevant to schools, applied for annually through the portal.*

### Grant C

£600–  
£2k

Associates &  
Organisations

- One-off school music projects or CPD, depending on funding availability
- Schools can approach an Associate or organisation to apply on their behalf
- Contract required with stated outcomes and outputs
- Should be match funded at 50% from other income sources (Some of this can be in-kind support that must be demonstrated in terms of value)

### Grant D

£100–  
£500

Schools only

- GCSE/BTEC Level 2 & A Level/Level 3 music support for secondary schools
- One-off workshops at KS1–3 introducing instrumental learning
- Live Music Performances
- Match funded at 50% — not available for existing projects (Some of this can be in-kind support that must be demonstrated in terms of value)
- Report required on completion via the portal
- Annual data return must be submitted or in progress

**Grant D Reporting:** A report is required once the project is completed, accessible via the portal. It includes pupil numbers and a text box to record outcomes.

# School & Community Music Projects

*Through Grant C, we seek innovative and impactful applications for school or community-based projects delivered by Associates — for children and young people across Swindon.*

**Can schools apply for Grant C?** Grant C is open to Associates and organisations — but they can work in partnership with schools. Approach an Associate from the eco-family to apply on your behalf.

## What We're Looking For

<p><b>Trial &amp; Innovation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot new ideas &amp; engagement methods</li> <li>• Explore new technologies or partnership models</li> <li>• Test fresh teaching approaches</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustaining Grassroots</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain essential community music programmes</li> <li>• Meet real local needs</li> <li>• Build on existing provision</li> </ul>	<p><b>Disrupting the Status Quo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenge traditional approaches</li> <li>• Break down barriers to access</li> <li>• Make music relevant to young people’s lives</li> </ul>
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<p><b>2026–27 Priority Themes</b></p> <p>Your project must address at least one of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years</li> <li>• Alternative Provision (AP)</li> <li>• Contemporary Music Making</li> <li>• Music Projects for Children &amp; Young People</li> </ul>	<p><b>Geographic Scope</b></p> <p>Projects must be delivered within Swindon and demonstrate clear benefits for children and young people in local schools or communities.</p> <p><b>Delivery Area: Swindon</b></p>
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# Music Development & School Curriculum Support

*Through Grant D, we seek schools to support their music curriculum — from GCSE support to live music roadshows.*

## What We're Looking For

Exciting projects that help young people make, learn and enjoy music — for example:

<b>Exam Support</b> GCSE/BTEC Level 2 and A Level/Level 3 music support for secondary schools	<b>Taster Sessions</b> Introducing instrument lessons at KS1–3 to spark new musical interests	<b>Live Music Roadshows</b> Bringing live performance experiences directly into your school
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## Eligibility for Grant D

**For Grant D — Schools:** A state school in Swindon that engages with the music hub through the Music Cluster Coordinators — attending cluster meetings, responding to hub communications, sharing data returns, and working collaboratively to support music provision.

**Not sure about your eligibility?** Contact your school cluster coordinator or the Swindon Music team before submitting.

Access the support video for completing a Grant D application: [Watch here →](#)

# Bursaries for Pupils in Financial Need

*Tuition bursaries supplement your school’s Pupil Premium funding to ensure every eligible pupil can access music tuition.*

<p><b>Bursary Amount</b>  <b>£5.60 per lesson</b>                  Recommended tutor rate:                  £30.40–£41.50/hr.                  Supplements Pupil Premium.</p>	<p><b>Funding Source</b>  <b>DfE Annual Budget</b>                  Apply early — once budget is allocated, applications close for the rest of the year.</p>	<p><b>Priority Pupils</b>  <b>Renewals First</b>                  Pupils continuing lessons from last year are prioritised before new applications.</p>
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## Who is Eligible?

<p><b>Free School Meals</b>                  Pupils receiving Free School Meals or Pupil Premium</p>	<p><b>SEND Pupils</b>                  SEND pupils who also receive Pupil Premium</p>	<p><b>Looked After Children</b>                  Your school can apply to the local authority LAC team to cover remaining lesson costs</p>
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## Important Rules

<p><b>Rules for Bursary Claims</b>                  Bursary capped at £5.60 per lesson regardless of tutor rate · Requests must come via the portal — not retrospectively · One session per week (no doubling up) · A pupil can only be supported by ONE Associate Tutor per academic year · Annual data return must be submitted or in progress</p>
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*Eligible lesson types: 15-min individual · 20-min individual · 20-min shared · 30-min shared*

# Our Quality Assurance Framework

*All funded partners must sign up to the GSW Quality Charter — rooted in youth voice, access, musical progression and lived experience.*

## Our Principles

<p><b>Lived experience over external judgement</b> Quality is seen in real moments of music-making, which we share and learn from together.</p>	<p><b>Youth voice at the centre</b> Young people shape design, delivery and review of all funded activities.</p>
<p><b>Musical × Holistic</b> Progress and wellbeing matter equally in everything we measure.</p>	<p><b>Different in different contexts</b> Quality looks different in schools, studios, community spaces and events.</p>
<p><b>Connection over comparison</b> Learning together, not ranking against each other.</p>	<p><b>Space to improve, not pressure to prove</b> Light, purposeful evidence — not a compliance burden.</p>

## Capture — Share — Develop

Based on Youth Music’s model — a shared cycle of reflection and learning supporting consistent, collaborative quality across the GSW partnership.

<p><b>C A P T U R E</b></p> <p><b>Step 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observations</li> <li>• Youth voice</li> <li>• Stakeholder feedback</li> <li>• Engagement data</li> <li>• Stories &amp; lived examples</li> </ul>	<p><b>S H A R E</b></p> <p><b>Step 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer visits</li> <li>• Shared clips &amp; stories</li> <li>• Reflective summaries</li> <li>• Annual conversations</li> </ul>	<p><b>D E V E L O P</b></p> <p><b>Step 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPD</li> <li>• Acting on feedback</li> <li>• Continuous reflection</li> <li>• Strong safeguarding &amp; inclusion</li> </ul>
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## Policies & Resources

*Key documents to read alongside this guide.*

→	<b>GSW Commissioning Policy</b> gloucestershire.gov.uk — Policy page	<a href="#">Visit</a>
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→	<b>Glide Application Portal</b> Apply for grants and bursaries online	<a href="#">Visit</a>
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## LET'S WORK TOGETHER

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