

FIRST EDITION · 2026

GSW Music Hub

Swindon & Wiltshire

ANNUAL HUB FUNDING & MONITORING FRAMEWORK FOR ASSOCIATE ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

A Guide for Delivery Partners, Associates and Schools

Swindon & Wiltshire

Supported by Arts Council England
& Department for Education

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About This Framework

GSW Music Hub created this guide to help Delivery Partners, Associates, and Schools understand what funding grants are available and the ways we track and support grant recipients.

How to Apply All applications are managed through our Glide Portal.	Who Can Access the Portal? Approved Associates (individuals or organisations), already have access to the portal — if you cannot remember the email address you set up your Associate Directory with, contact the Admin Office
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How Associates Apply for Grant C Through the Glide Portal

Associates can submit funding requests quickly and easily through the Glide Portal. Follow the steps below to register and submit your application.

Step 1: Access the Associate Directory Portal

Visit the Associate Directory Glide Portal using the link below to begin your application:

 **Glide Portal:** <https://providers.gswmusichubswindwiltts.org.uk>

Step 2: Submit Your Grant Application

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

Need help? If you experience any difficulties registering or submitting your application, please contact your associate coordinator of the admin office.

Welcome to GSW Swindon & Wiltshire's Music Hub Funding & Monitoring Framework

This framework establishes the parameters for GSW Music Hub's partnerships. It outlines our expectations of delivery partners in whom we invest, as well as what partners can expect from us in return.

The framework aims to support the music sector across Swindon and Wiltshire in maintaining ambitious, high-quality provision that is both dynamic and flexible in its approach. It seeks to foster an infrastructure that is inclusive, relevant, and accessible to all children and young people, while emphasising the critical importance of robust hub programme planning.

Need More Information?

Contact: pclark@smscio.co.uk | 01793 610673

How GSW Swindon & Wiltshire Hub Will Invest

Subject to government funding being allocated, GSW Music Hub will offer applications annually through a Grant application portal. These grants are as follows:

Grant

A

£16k+

Professional Organisations — Annual Full Year Applications (Applicants are invited to apply for Grant A)

- Full commissioning process supported with a local Sub Grant Agreement
- Must be match funded at 50% income from other sources
- In-kind support can be offered in some cases
- Financial support for one year (normally the Academic year)

Grant

B

£2k–£15k

Individual Professionals & Professional Organisations — Annual Full Year Applications (Applicants are invited to apply for Grant A)

- Full commissioning process supported with a local Sub Grant Agreement
- Must be match funded at 50% income from other sources
- In-kind support can be offered in some cases
- Financial support for one year (normally the Academic year)

Grant

C

£600–£2k

Individual Professionals & Professional Organisations — One-Off Projects (Open to all Associate organisations and Individuals throughout the year or until the budget has been allocated)

- For one-off projects or CPD courses, depending on funding availability at County level
- Contract required with outcome/outputs
- Should be match funded at 50% income from other sources
- In-kind support can be offered in some cases

Reporting Requirements

ACE/DfE reporting requirements may change during the academic year. We will make any changes as simple as possible, but all Hub-funded partners should be aware this may happen.

Branding: Guidance will include requirements for appropriate referencing of the HLO, Arts Council England and DfE support.

A video is available for to assist you in completing an application [HERE](#)

Grant C: Associates only for School & Community Music Projects

Our Vision for School Community Investment

Through Grants C, we are seeking innovative and impactful applications for school projects or community-based projects submitted by the Individuals or organisations from the Associate eco-family delivering music projects for children and young people across Swindon and Wiltshire. We are particularly interested in initiatives that enable young people to make, learn, and enjoy music. Associates and organisations can work in partnership with schools on Grant C projects — schools with a school project in mind are encouraged to approach an Associate or organisation from the eco-family to apply on their behalf.

Trial & Innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pilot new ideas & engagement methods ✓ Explore new technologies or partnership models ✓ Test fresh teaching approaches 	Sustaining Grassroots in the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintain essential community music programmes ✓ Meet real local needs ✓ Build on existing provision 	Disrupting the Status Quo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Challenge traditional approaches ✓ Break down barriers to access ✓ Make music more relevant to young people's lives ✓ Create opportunities that haven't existed before
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2026–27 Priority Themes

Your project must address at least one of:

- ▶ Early Years
- ▶ Alternative Provision (AP) for young people facing barriers
- ▶ Contemporary Music Making
- ▶ Music Projects involving children and young people
- ▶ CPD for the Associate’s further development in Music Education

Geographic Scope

Projects must be delivered within Swindon and/or Wiltshire and demonstrate clear benefits for children and young people in these schools or communities.

Who Is Eligible to Apply?

To be eligible to apply for Grants A, B, and C, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Hub Membership Status

You or your organisation must hold Approved Associate status with the GSW Music Hub. This formal relationship ensures alignment with our strategic objectives and quality standards.

2. Commitment to the Associate Eco-Family Ethos

All applicants must demonstrate commitment to and sign up to the core principles of our associate eco-family.

3. Completion of Data Returns

Associates cannot apply for funding if they have not completed their data returns for the previous year. All required data submissions must be fully completed and accepted before any new application will be considered.

Financial Sustainability

- **Contributing to leveraged income targets:** Associates must actively contribute toward the leveraged income requirements mandated by the DfE through the Arts Council England (ACE), ensuring long-term sustainability and growth of music education provision across Swindon and Wiltshire.
- **Sustainable pricing models:** Services must not be offered free of charge. Appropriate pricing structures should reflect the value of provision. Where necessary, subsidised rates or bursary schemes should be explored.

Our Associate Eco-Family Values (Inclusion Policy)

1	Radical listening and youth-centric design
2	Embedding equality as core business
3	Challenging underrepresentation
4	Creating authentic representation and diverse musical futures
5	Accessible, anti-oppressive communications
6	Transformative partnerships for systemic change
7	Data-driven accountability and courageous reflection
8	Cultivating a culture of belonging

Quality Assurance Framework

All funded partners must sign up to the GSW Quality Charter. Our Quality Framework provides a clear, simple way to describe quality across the region — rooted in youth voice, access, musical progression and lived experience.

Our Principles

- **Lived experience over external judgement** — quality is seen in real moments of music-making, which we share and learn from
- **Youth voice at the centre** — young people shape design, delivery and review
- **Musical × Holistic** — progress and wellbeing matter equally
- **Different in different contexts** — quality looks different in schools, studios, community spaces and events
- **Connection over comparison** — learning together, not ranking
- **Space to improve, not pressure to prove** — light, purposeful evidence

The Framework: Capture — Share — Develop

Based on Youth Music's Capture, Share, Develop model — a shared cycle of reflection and learning that supports consistent, collaborative quality across the GSW partnership. It is a continuous loop, not a one-off exercise, encouraging open, reflective practice rooted in lived experiences.

CAPTURE	SHARE	DEVELOP
Observations Youth voice Stakeholder feedback Engagement data Stories & lived examples	Peer visits Shared clips/stories Reflective summaries Annual conversations	CPD Acting on feedback Continuous reflection Strong safeguarding & inclusion

Funded Partners Will Agree To:

- Celebrate diverse approaches to quality
- Participate in a shared reflective cycle
- Use evidence meaningfully
- Support openness, curiosity and kindness
- Build a shared story of quality for GSW

Other Useful Documents

GSW Music Hub Inclusion Strategy

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/p3nndwxc/gsw-inclusionstrategy.pdf>

GSW Commissioning Policy

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gsw-music-hub/policies/>

LET'S WORK
TOGETHER

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