

Dear parent/carer,

We are delighted to get in touch with you as a parent or carer of a child currently in Year 6 moving to a BCP Secondary School in 2024. SoundStorm is the Music Education Development Agency for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole conurbation, lead partner of the BCP music hub, with a core mission of transforming lives through music. We work with all state schools in the conurbation, plus Early Years and many community groups. Some SoundStorm inputs your child will already have experienced if they attended a BCP Primary School include an annual concert in school as part of our 'Live and Inspired' programme to bring live musical performances to all Primary School children; and involvement in a Whole Class Ensemble Tuition course during Key Stage 2 where they will have had the opportunity to learn a musical instrument with their own teacher or one of our specialists, alongside their classmates.

### **ASSISTING WITH THE TRANSITION OF YOUNG MUSICIANS FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

Every year, we are aware that some young musicians are "lost" in the transition from primary to secondary school, and some stop playing altogether. Thus, we are asking for your help if your child is learning an instrument, or participating in another musical activity in or out of school (eg. a choir). We're hoping to facilitate the smooth transition of young musicians to secondary school by providing key info about their musical learning to their destination secondary school. We hope this will result in fewer musicians falling through the cracks and provide the new school with the information they need to support their ongoing music education, tailored to their individual experience, including continuation of instrumental learning, supporting you to find appropriate instrument hire, and signposting other relevant opportunities including to the relevant ensembles in their new Music Department.

### **What you can do to help**

If you have a child learning an instrument in or out of school, or who is involved in other music related activities (eg. a choir, a band, music production or musical theatre etc), please fill in the short online form at the bottom of this page, detailing your child's musical progress so far, which we will pass to the Head of Music at your child's new secondary school. Hopefully this will mean the new school is better prepared when your child arrives in September. Your involvement in this process is of course optional, but we hope many parents/carers will take the opportunity to enhance their child's transition from Primary to Secondary musical education. If you do take part, you'll also have the option to enter a prize draw for one of 5 £30 vouchers to be used at Absolute Music ([absolutemusic.co.uk](http://absolutemusic.co.uk)). There will also be an optional sign-up for a mailing list from SoundStorm with which we will send out information about our events and opportunities for young musicians in the area, many of which take place out of school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to make you aware of our Access Fund which supports young musicians in challenging circumstances, such as a family experiencing financial hardship: [Access Fund / Remissions](#)

The deadline for parents/guardians to complete this form is **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. This is to allow us time to collate the information and disseminate to the relevant secondary schools for Heads of Music's planning well before the end of term.

If you have any questions about this process or any part of our work, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us at [info@soundstorm-music.org.uk](mailto:info@soundstorm-music.org.uk).

[Click here to complete the form](#)

Yours sincerely,

SoundStorm Team



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