



**Lincolnshire
Music Service**

**Celebration Report
2024/25**



Welcome to Our Annual Celebration Report 2024/2025



We are thrilled to present this year's Celebration Report which is a vibrant reflection of the passion, progress, and partnerships that have shaped music education across Lincolnshire over the past year.

This year began with a major milestone: our successful reappointment as the lead organisation for the Lincolnshire Music Hub.

With £1.3 million in funding from the Department for Education, we've been able to invest in new instruments, technology, and resources—ensuring that our offer is not only high-quality but also accessible to all, including children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Throughout this report, you'll find inspiring case studies and stories that showcase the real impact of our work—on individuals, schools, and communities;

- Case Study 1 - Working in Partnership
- Case Study 2 - Delivering FREE Music Centres
- Case Study 3 - Opportunities for Schools
- Case Study 4 - Learning a Musical Instrument
- Case Study 5 - Progression for our Most Advanced Young Musicians
- Case Study 6 - Inclusive Music Teaching
- Case Study 7 - Provision for ALL Children and Young People

These are more than just achievements; they are powerful reminders of why we do what we do.

Thank you to everyone who has supported and partnered with us this year.

We hope this report leaves you feeling as inspired as we are.

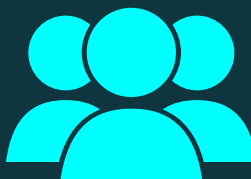
Jennifer McKie
Head of Lincolnshire Music Service



Measuring our Impact



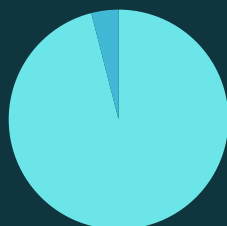
1 National Award - LMS secured the Music Mark 'This is Not A Rehearsal' Award in recognition of our focus on the climate crisis



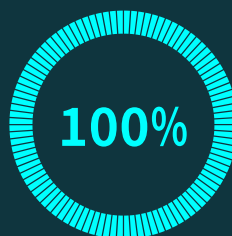
Delivered training and opportunities to over 650 school-based teachers including the regional Music Education Conference, attended by the Department for Education, in June 2025.



14,279 pupils received instrumental and/or singing lessons with LMS with 100% of pupils outlining they enjoyed their lessons with LMS



96% of schools in Lincolnshire engaged with Lincolnshire Music Service



100% of schools describing the Service & Partnership with LMS as good or better
100% of schools described LMS' as good value for money



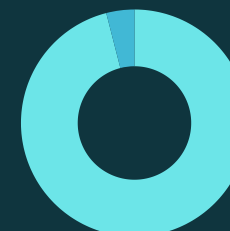
6000 young people accessed additional live music and workshop opportunities delivered by LMS



666 pupils accessed music centres and county groups delivered by LMS with a successful tour to Palencia, Spain, in July 2025



LMS secured record levels of successful external grants amounting to around £1.6 million from Department for Education, Youth Music, Arts Council England as well as local charities such as FLINSO.



96% of families described the Quality of the Lessons with LMS as 'Good' or better



81% of those pupils learning received tuition for FREE via whole-class instrumental lessons in partnership with schools



A further 485 pupils (21%) received discounted lessons through means and non-means tested grants and bursaries - 63 children and young people in care received fully funded weekly lessons

Case Study 1 - Working in Partnership Sing To Change Project



“LMS supported our company to take on its most ambitious endeavour.”

2024 saw The Come and Sing Company take on its most ambitious endeavour since the company’s conception in 2017.

In partnership with Lincolnshire Music Service and Scruffy Bear Media, our Sing to Change Project enabled children from 11 schools in Lincolnshire to collaborate with school children in Boston, USA to produce a music video and documentary based around the common plight of climate change.

The united focus of LMS and our partnership meant that the project was driven with passion from all sides, while being wholly child focussed.

“The resulting media legacy has now been viewed over 2000 times, and has led to requests for our resource packs and audio supporting files from as far away as Australia.

Our partnership with LMS was integral from start to finish, offering assistance from conception through to evaluation. LMS’ help in writing the initial funding application was invaluable, alongside their help to coordinate schools across the county. It really was a truly collaborative project which resulted in a National award win and two further nominations!

LMS’ knowledge and experience of projects such as this and how to make them as successful as possible was second to none and we couldn’t have achieved half of what we did without our partnership.

Elenor Bowers-Jolley
Creative Director, Come and Sing Company

Music Mark



Case Study 2 - Delivering FREE Music Centres



“LMS has helped me experience the magic of playing with others”

Joining my local FREE Music Centre, and playing in Sleaford String Orchestra and Folk Rock Ensemble, has been a monumental experience and undoubtedly a giant step forward in my violin playing.

Despite being an older student who began to play the violin much later than many of my peers, Lincolnshire Music Service has been exceedingly supportive and encouraging and, thanks to them, I have made great progress in the relatively short amount of time I have been with them.

Having performed in a handful of concerts with my groups in the last two years, I have witnessed the magic of playing with other students firsthand.

Being able to find myself in an environment with other aspiring young musicians has driven me to challenge myself and improve my skills, inside the rehearsal room during club hours, and even more so in my own time at home.

The staff team provides invaluable guidance, and music arrangements always accommodate varying levels of skill for each and every student to join in on, from beginners who have just familiarised themselves with the stave and wish to practise beyond their first music books, to seasoned musicians with more than ten years under their belt who are capable of leading others.

Lincolnshire Music Service and the orchestras that they host are unmissable opportunities for students and young musicians to take part in, with how readily accessible their support is.

I'm very much looking forward to staying with my Music Centre until the end of sixth form.

Nathan Styles
Music Centre Participant

Music Centres



Case Study 3 - Opportunities for Schools



“LMS reminded us of the importance of introducing children to live music”

The vision of the National Plan for Music Education is to enable all children and young people to learn to sing, learn an instrument, to create music together and have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talents.

In July 2025, LMS partnered with Street Orchestra Live, thanks to funding from Arts Council England, to provide FREE live music across the county.

Together, they revived the tradition of seaside concerts & tea dances for a week-long tour of Lincolnshire giving free concerts in public spaces, schools and working with partners to inspire older & vulnerable people to move to music.

The children, and staff, of our junior school were blown away by the visit we had from Street Orchestra Live.

It warmed my heart to see the children's faces light up in awe and wonder, and it really reminded me of the importance of exposing children to live music.

Not only had most of our children never seen a live orchestra before, but even a number of staff mentioned how it was their first experience. These opportunities are vital to build their cultural capital and enjoyment of music.

Adults and children in our school community were discussing how wonderful the performance was for days after, showing the immense impact, those 45 minutes had on them all.

Thank you Lincolnshire Music Service for the opportunities you continue to provide.

Alice Fielden
Music Lead, Birchwood Junior School

Seaside Dances Tour



Personal

DEVELOPMENT

Academic

EXCELLENCE

Case Study 4 - Learning a Musical Instrument



“LMS has been there for me every step of the way”

Aged seven, I was sat in assembly when an LMS teacher announced that we could start music lessons for free – when she asked for volunteers, I raised my hand and begged my teacher to nominate me. I was handed a flute by chance, and that was the beginning.

Being introduced to reading music, dynamics and coordinating with other players was challenging at first. However, I remember being encouraged by my LMS teacher and shown different, tailored ways of learning about this new instrument. My best friend began playing the clarinet; after progressing through exams, we joined the Music Centre Junior Wind Band, where we trekked after school each week to join the older, confident, and quite frankly frightening, teenagers.

Soon enough, while performing in an LMS concert, I watched the Senior Wind Band play ‘Sing, Sing, Sing’ by Benny Goodman. I was amazed by the drummer, who was the epitome of ‘cool’ to me, and showed me that a drummer can be versatile, and a girl!

Immediately, I enquired with LMS as to where I could find a drumkit and a teacher, and with a few beginner lessons and a mountain of patience from my tutor, I realised that I could be quite good at this new thing.

I have made friends along the way that I would never have met otherwise, and I am glad every time I see them that I chose to attend orchestra on that frightful first day. When handed the drumkit part to ‘Sing, Sing, Sing’, the full-circle moment was monumental and I played the part with pride, performing alongside my friends.

Touring around Salamanca was an incredible experience organised by LMS, performing brilliant concerts with a few empanadas for the journey.

I am truly grateful to LMS for the opportunities that it has given young people around the county – with the patience, enthusiasm and encouragement of the tutors, children become inspired to persevere through the scales and practice, and shape their futures.

Faye Langdon
Young Musician

Learn An Instrument



Case Study 5 - Progression for our Advanced Musicians



“LMS has helped me experience the magic of playing with others”

LMS has helped me develop as a musician for many years. I have been able to play in this orchestra for nearly 10 years, and I can safely say every one of them has been incredible, thanks to the staff and the people I have played with over the years.

The support I have received has been incredible and extensive. From pushing us to play harder and harder pieces (which get easier as time goes on!) to the sectionals, where we develop as a section, to the full rehearsals, where everything comes together.

And that's just from the orchestra side! When it comes to other opportunities, I have been able to play in the Royal Albert Hall, play with other amazing brass bands, and go on tour to amazing places like Germany, play under the Bach memorial statue in Leipzig, and to Palencia in July 2025.

The opportunities you are pushed to do are truly incredible. The tutors are also brilliant. I truly feel that if I went to any one of them, they'd help me out and make sure that I was okay and understood what was going on. I remember having to do this loads of times when I first joined LYWO, and they were incredibly nice. Also, the people here are incredibly welcoming, and you will be able to find your bunch!

Tours are some of the most fun I've had, from the rehearsals, seeing amazing places and cultures, and who can forget the bowling, which always brings about a few smiles! The opportunity to go on tour is not one to be wasted because I can honestly say, not only is it bucket loads of fun, but also the chance to play abroad and show off your progress over the year is truly incredible.

Having been on 2 tours, I can say I wouldn't be able to do any of this without the support from the County Groups.

The County groups are full of incredible people, and I have loved every minute I have spent playing with these talented musicians, and with the amazing staff who are there helping us every step of the way.

Jack Church
County Groups Participant

County Groups



Case Study 6 - Inclusive Music Teaching



‘LMS has brought much more than just music’

At Bridge House School, which is a mixed Independent Special Day School for 36 young people, we are proud to celebrate the work of Lincolnshire Music Service (LMS) with our Key Stage 3 children. LMS involvement has brought not only music, but also confidence, creativity, and connection to enrich our children's experience in school.

The music and DJ mixing event at our school was a resounding success, leaving a lasting positive impact on students, staff, and the wider school community. The event provided a vibrant and inclusive platform for students to explore their creativity, build confidence, and engage with music in a dynamic and meaningful way.

For many of our learners, music is a powerful tool for expression, and the opportunity to mix tracks, experiment with beats, and perform in front of their peers was both empowering and joyful.

Students demonstrated notable enthusiasm and focus throughout the sessions, with many showing increased levels of communication and collaboration.

The hands-on nature of DJ mixing encouraged fine motor skills, auditory processing, and decision-making, all within a fun and supportive environment.

It was excellent to see students who are often reserved come alive behind their iPad and create their own track for their peers to hear .

The event also tackled our enquiry question, “Is it right to speak out”, fostering a sense of community, bringing together pupils from different classes and backgrounds to share in a collective experience.

Overall, the music and DJ mixing event was more than just entertainment, it was a celebration of individuality, creativity, and inclusion. It highlighted the transformative power of music in education and reinforced our commitment to providing enriching experiences that cater to the diverse needs of our students.

James Wright
Assistant Head at Bridge House School

Inclusive Music Teaching



Case Study 7 Provision for ALL Children and Young People

Music can make a big difference in the lives of young people who've been in care, especially those with special educational needs. It's not just about learning an instrument—it's about giving them a chance to express themselves, feel proud, and connect with others.

The Virtual School's collaborative partnership with Lincolnshire Music Service has enabled a number of our care experienced young people to access music lessons.

These individual lessons have supported the young people by providing:

A safe way to express feelings - Many of our young people in care have been through a lot, and it's not always easy for them to talk about how they feel. Music is giving them a way to express their emotions without needing words. The lessons are helping them feel calmer, more confident, and more in control.

Help with learning and focus - Music lessons are supporting our children's learning in lots of ways. They are helping with memory, concentration, and coordination. For our young people with special educational needs, their music lessons are a fun and engaging way to build these skills—especially when they may experience barriers to their learning in the classroom.

Building confidence and friendships - Playing music—especially with their music teacher or others—can help young people feel part of something. It's a great way to make friends, work as a team, and feel proud of what they can do. That sense of belonging is really important for our care-experienced young people who might sometimes feel left out or different.

Opening up new opportunities - Learning music may lead to all sorts of exciting things like performing, joining a band or even studying music further. But even if it doesn't become a career, it's something our children in can enjoy for life.

Every young person deserves the chance to shine. Music lessons are helping some of our care-experienced young people with special educational needs to feel seen, heard, and valued. It's not just about singing or playing an instrument—it's giving them the tools to grow, connect, and believe in themselves.

The Virtual School is committed to continue working with Lincolnshire Music Service, schools and professionals to enable more of our children to access these opportunities.

Sarah Lane
Head of Virtual School

“LMS has given young people in care a chance to express themselves”

Financial Support Options



Reflections

At the heart of everything we do is a belief in the transformative power of music.

Our dedicated team at Lincolnshire Music Service has worked tirelessly, during 2024/2025, to ensure that every child, regardless of background or ability, has the opportunity to experience the joy and enrichment that music brings.

As the African proverb says, *“It takes a village to raise a child”*—and in Lincolnshire, it takes a community to nurture a love of music.

Thanks to the incredible collaboration with schools, teachers, partners, and local communities, we’ve continued to build a thriving, inclusive musical landscape.

Thank you for your partnership, and we look forward to more exciting music making in 2025/2026.



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