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Dear Colleagues

Please find attached the press release announcing Heart of England Music – the New Music Hub for Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire. In the coming weeks we will be sharing information about events and opportunities for schools and for your young people both via Coventry Music as the local partner in the new Hub and the wider region. We hope the new opportunities for more strategic and regional activity will bring new and exciting programmes that will further enhance, develop and expand the music education offer in Coventry and the wider region. . Further information can be found at [Arts Council England announces new Music Hub Lead Organisations | Arts Council England](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/creative-matters/news/arts-council-england-announces-new-music-hub-lead-organisations)

The Department of Education requires Music Hubs to be strategic bodies that lead and create partnerships to support schools and academies in their delivery of the National Plan for Music Education (NPME) and ensure that a diverse ecosystem of musical opportunities and pathways are available to children & young people to enable them to progress their music interests within and beyond the classroom and into employment.

Our new Music Hub will be called **Heart of England Music** and a new entity jointly owned by Coventry, Warwickshire & Solihull Councils will be established to accommodate the new regional Music Hub arrangements.

**Coventry Music** will be the Hub lead Organisation for the Coventry Local Authority area, and its identity, day to day operation and delivery offer to schools, children and young people in September remains unchanged.

There is now much to do in a very short time to establish and transition to the new Music Hub whilst ensuring our existing support and opportunities for schools/academies, children & young people continue through the summer term and into the new academic year.

**Our initial priorities are to:**

* Establish a new Governance Board for Heart of England Music that will include school leader representation from each local authority area.

* Develop our Instrument Investment Strategy to access a new **£175,000 Capital Investment Grant** to support schools, academies, and learners in Coventry.

* Build partnerships with a range of existing Music Hub Partners and new music organisations across the region to develop our ecosystem of organisations to support schools and academies and provide opportunities for children & young people, particularly those most disadvantaged and those with special educational needs and disabilities.

* Work to establish Lead School Partners to support Curriculum and Workforce Development opportunities for schools and academies across the Hub area.

We are running a survey so we can tailor the correct support for schools via the new Hub grant and the Capital Investment Grant, so please do take the time to complete before the 17th May, so that we can plan and prepare activities and resources to meet your needs. <https://forms.office.com/e/0k9k3kL5s5>

If you would like to discuss this further or speak about provision or programmes for 2024/25 please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks

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Mark Steele

Coventry Music Lead

Strategic Lead, Quality and Sustainability, Heart of England Music