



Autumn Minutes for the Music Educators Group for Secondary Schools in Walsall

Venue: Grace Academy

Date: 29th Jan 2024

1. Acceptances and Apologies

Present:	
Stephanie Dufty (SD) – Chair	Walsall Music Education Hub & Service (WMEHS)
Charlotte Okunlola (CO) - Host	Grace Academy
Kaite Brown (KB)	Grace Academy
Catherine Richards (CR)	The Streetly Academy
Apologies:	
Stewart Gardner (SG)	Blue Coat Academy
Jess Harvey (JH)	St Thomas More
Jess Collier	Bloxwich Academy

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1. The minutes were accepted from the Autumn meeting – October 2023.

3. Group Chat

3.1. Various discussions

4. Girl Grind UK Presentation

4.1. Comprehensive offer for schools, supported by Youth Music. Primary aim to close the gender gap in the music industry. Explored the She Don Did It programme and also shared work the company currently do with DoE. Discussion with schools present around realistic contribution schools could make towards the one day in schools. Company to engage with schools individually and see how they can develop legacy work so it is not a stand-alone event.

5. Events

5.1. Singing Festival – SD shared the timetable for the day and schools agreed to book at a contribution of £85. Rock Choir Rock Stars will be running it.

5.2. Piano Spotlight – going ahead on 25th sept. Grace Academy considering organising a mini bus for their pupils as an inspirational event.

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Walsall Council

- 5.3. CPD – no news from Sandwell re buddying up for numbers on an exam board session. The group would really benefit from better engagement from other schools in order to attract exam boards to present.

6. Youth Voice

- 6.1. Short and general discussion. SD shared the positives from the Music Centre programme: Music Companions.

7. Hub Update

- 7.1. RnP Weds Music Centre – still spaces
7.2. Neil Johnson has retired (Arts Centre Mgr). Arts Centre is restructuring and having a spring clean
7.3. SLAs out end of Feb. Expect a 6.5% increase.
7.4. CBSO dates for schools concerts. Comp tickets available for staff via SD – **CO & CR interested and SD to action – 7th & 8th Feb for KS3 at Symphony Hall.**

8. AoB

- 8.1. Next meeting at STM May 21st (Tuesday). Group agreed they liked this time: 4pm – 5.30pm so it shall stay.

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Walsall Council