



Purbeck Youth Music: What we do and why

What we do

Purbeck Youth Music (PYM) aims to inspire, encourage and develop the musical potential of young people in Purbeck. We do this through:

- offering a programme of exciting interactive presentations and workshops in our schools to inspire and inform;
- providing a network of professional musicians, instrumental and choral teachers who offer lessons, including at subsidised rates;
- providing instruments on loan from our own and other stocks;
- bringing young musicians together into ensembles and choirs;
- offering performance opportunities for our young musicians.

We are a charity and work in partnership with the Dorset Music Service and are funded entirely by donations, local sponsors and charitable organisations.

Why we do this

Music making is fun and develops a range of skills. It is a part of the culture of all societies and is a civilising influence. But it is underfunded in our schools and so young people miss out on the range of benefits and opportunities it can offer.

How we do it

- We find music teachers, demonstrate instruments, subsidise beginner sessions, develop ensembles and groups and offer performance opportunities.
- We offer these services throughout the school year and in as many Purbeck schools as our funding allows.
- Coordinators for string, brass, woodwind and singing help manage our work.
- We partner with the Dorset Music Service and with other music groups such as Purbeck Art Weeks (PAW) Festival, Purbeck International Chamber Music Festival (PICMF), The Swanage Folk and Jazz Festivals and have generous support from Swanage & Purbeck Rotary.
- We communicate with our supporters and with schools and parents notably via a website and occasional newsletters.

How we measure our progress

We aim to monitor:

- How many young people start to learn a musical instrument or join a choral group;
- How many continue after a term;
- How many receive subsidised lessons (a measure of added value to those who might otherwise be excluded);
- How many progress to achieve a grade in music making;
- How many progress to join an ensemble;
- How many teachers we manage to enlist;
- How much funding we secure from a range of supporters, trusts and others;
- How many performance opportunities we provide and the size of the audiences we attract.

We aim to improve our measures of success year on year.

Budget

To maintain our current level of activity, we need to generate around £12/15,000 a year from sponsorship, donations and trusts.

Ideally, we would hope to grow our activity and cover as wide a range of musical forms as possible, but we recognise that the challenge for this is to recruit more tutors willing/able to travel to Purbeck.

We have two restricted funds with reserves; one is to support string teaching (current level of annual expenditure £2000+) and one to support instrument loans (including the repair and maintenance of the stock of instruments)

PYM October 2023