



Music in the Classroom: one-year music CPD for Primary school teachers

'I really enjoyed this course. It was useful, relevant, engaging, practical, often challenging and loads of fun. It's by far the best CPD I've ever done' Fossdene Primary School teacher

Benefits:

- Train confident, creative music leaders on the job. Teachers develop and share skills in how to plan and lead vibrant, high-quality music activities and facilitate outside artist visits.
- Pupils work with professional musicians to compose, listen, review, and perform their own music.
- Positive and lasting impact on musical engagement across the school.



Schools enrol one, or more, teachers on the scheme and receive:

1. Professional Development

High-quality practical training sessions are led by LSO Animateur Rachel Leach and Specialist Teacher Trainer Julie Sharpe, providing structured year-long support. Sessions equip each teacher with creative leadership, project coordination, and musical skills, new tools and ideas, and build confidence in leading music activities. Teachers will take away a new activity to try in class every week.

2. Three class projects (with the same or a different KS2 class each term)

A structured creative project with one KS2 class per school each term, led by the participating teacher. Each project is launched and supported in the training sessions and includes tailored resources and a visit by LSO musicians. The final project ends with pupils performing at our culmination event at LSO St Luke's, the LSO's music education centre.

3. Free tickets to an LSO Discovery Schools Concert

Pupils will experience the powerful sound of the full London Symphony Orchestra live at the Barbican Centre. They may be able to spot the LSO musicians on stage that visited them in school, and will hear the orchestral music behind their own composition work in class.

4. Free places for Teacher CPD Creative Days

Participating schools are entitled to free places (maximum allocation per day) to the LSO Discovery CPD Creative Day series – up to c.6 day-long practical workshops for teachers with LSO musicians exploring creative strategies for music-making in the classroom. Cost usually £75+VAT per teacher per Creative Day.

For school staff with any amount of prior musical or teaching experience, who:

- Teach in a London boroughs state school. We cannot accommodate independent schools.
- Have access to KS2 class(es) for the creative projects.
- Have their participation supported by the Head Teacher and wider school.

Cost

Subsidised cost to school (inclusive of all elements above): £450+VAT per teacher.

Fee can be paid in full or spread over financial years.

Please contact the LSO if the cost of the programme is a barrier to participation for your school.



Music in the Classroom programme schedule 2025-26

All elements of the scheme are compulsory for participating schools and their enrolled teacher(s). Please note that this is a provisional plan: dates, and the order of course content may change depending on the teachers'/schools' needs.

Training	Four Thursday 4.45–6.45pm sessions per term, at LSO St Luke's (Old Street, EC1V 9NG)
Launch	One in Autumn term, 10am–3pm at LSO St Luke's
School Visits	One LSO visit per term, with the class that the teacher has completed each project with.
Schools Concert	Hour-long presented concert for KS2.
Culmination	Each teacher brings one class to perform at the LSO St Luke's.
CPD Creative Days	<i>Optional: access to up to c.6 additional days of CPD, 10am–3pm at LSO St Luke's for any school staff leading or interested in leading music. Dates to follow.</i>

Autumn 2025

Thu 2 Oct	Training 1: Introduction & warm-ups, Class project 1
Wed 8 Oct	Launch workshop (10am–3pm)
Thu 16 Oct	Training 2: Project support and teaching the participation song.
27–31 Oct	Half Term
Wed 5 Nov	KS2 Concert at the Barbican
Thu 6 Nov	Training 3: Project support. Rhythm and structure. Starting to compose – Signalling and classroom instruments. Notation
c. 10–24 Nov	School Visits 1: one school visit per teacher (Rachel Leach and LSO musicians).
Thu 27 Nov	Training 4: Class Project 1 sharing and reflection

Spring 2026

Thu 29 Jan	Training 1: Class Project 2 launch.
Thu 5 Feb	Training 2: Class project 2 support & composing abstract music. Working with professional musicians in school
16–20 Feb	Half Term
Thu 26 Feb or 5 Mar	Training 3: Project 2 support. Listening and using digital resources.
c. 9 Mar–23 Mar	School Visits 2: one school visit per teacher (Rachel Leach and LSO musicians).
Thu 26 Mar	Training 4: Class Project 2 sharing and reflection.

Summer 2026

Thu 16 Apr	Training 1: Class Project 3 launch.
Thu 23 Apr	Training 2: Class Project 3 support. 'Three ideas' approach (1).
Thu 30 Apr	Training 3: 'Three ideas' approach (2).
c. 11–22 May	School Visits 3: one school visit per teacher (Rachel Leach and LSO musicians).
25–29 May	Half Term
4 OR 5 Jun	Summer culmination event with one class (LSO St Luke's)
Thu 18 Jun	Training 4: Class Project 3 sharing and reflections

To apply

Applications for the 2025–26 programme are now open. Places are limited and each place will be confirmed by LSO Discovery in writing and can only be allocated on receipt of a completed application form.

Contact

If you would like more information or an application form, please contact:

Beth Kershaw, LSO On Track Senior Projects Manager, at beth.kershaw@lso.co.uk 020 7382 2538

LSO Discovery