



# Archive - Music Education Hubs FAQs

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## **Navigating these archived FAQs**

These FAQs are outdated and, as such, have been removed from the website.

[You can find the updated Music Education Hubs: FAQs here>](#)

Can't find what you're looking for?

If you're using a desktop computer, press the Ctrl and F keys together (or Command and F for Mac users) to search each page for the word you're looking for.

## Hubs and the National Plan for Music Education

### **Will current Music Education Hubs be expected to deliver the NPME immediately?**

Updated 13 July 2023

It is already over a year since the NPME was published. It was well received and set a positive vision for music education to 2030. The Department for Education has confirmed the Plan will be implemented from September 2023.

This change will see the implementation of new requirements for Hubs, and these have been reviewed to ensure they are as manageable as possible while also making a shift to meet the new aims and expectations as set out in the 2022 NPME. Establishing the new policy for the sector now will help the sector prepare for the Music Hub Investment Programme and will ease the transition to the new Music Hub structure from September 2024. We appreciate that there is a lot going on right now for Hubs in preparing activity for September onwards and in light of this period of transition for the Hub programme.

Please read our [2023-24 Relationship Framework and accompanying guidance documents](#) for further information on the 2023-24 funding requirements.

## **2023-24 Funding Agreement- Overview**

**Why couldn't you publish the 2023-24 Relationship Framework sooner than May? Hubs have already begun planning activity for September 2023 onwards.**

Updated 13 July 2023

We have endeavoured to provide updates on the 2023-24 funding agreement period as soon as we have been in a position to do so.

In late-December 2022, we were able to share the move to academic year funding from September 2023 with the 2022-23 period extended to August 2023. At the same time the DfE also confirmed the individual budget allocations for both the 2022-23 extension period (ie 1 April 2022 – 31 August 2023) and the 2023-24 academic year funding period (ie 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2024).

In early March 2023, we were able to confirm that the implementation of the 2022 NPME would begin in September 2023, to support with planning for the next academic year, especially with schools and partners.

We have been working closely with the DfE since then on the parameters of the requirements for the 2023-24 academic year to allow us to be able to share the 2023-24 Relationship Framework with you as soon as possible.

We recognise that Hub and school planning cycles start early in the calendar year. If you have any concerns about meeting the aims of the new NPME and the 2023-24 funding requirements, please contact your Relationship Manager.

**Why are Hub funding agreements moving to an academic year for 2023-24?**

Updated 13 July 2023

Funding agreements have moved to an academic year funding period, in line with funding allocations to schools and academic year cycles of activity.

Lots of Hubs told us that their plans and activity were based on academic years rather than financial years, we have therefore aligned the programme funding to better suit the academic cycle of work.

We also hope that this will allow Hub Lead Organisations (HLOs) and their partners a longer lead-in time between the Department for Education's confirmation of future funding and the start of each academic year and assist with planning.

## **2023-24 Funding/Policy Requirements**

**How do we balance the work we are required to do over the next few months around our next payment conditions, the 2023-24 funding requirements and the Music Hub Investment Programme?**

Updated 13 July 2023

We have worked with the DfE to ensure our timelines for the current funding agreement, the 2023-24 timeline and the investment programme align as best as possible. We recognise that there is a lot to do over the next few months, and within a context of change and uncertainty.

We are here to support you and work with you in navigating these requirements. As always, your Relationship Manager is here to help. If you need support with balancing and prioritising everything over the next few months, please talk to them. We're also talking to Music Mark about how its services and support could complement ours to give you the help you need to manage this period.

Wherever possible we have tried to limit the amount of additional work required or new areas to consider. For example, the Performance Framework aligns with past expectations around good performance, as well as the additional conditions. It builds on existing processes and uses the existing SMART objectives template to capture your ratings. For any new expectations we are seeking early thinking and outline plans (please see our quick reference guide (PDF, 101.03 KB)). We have also staggered other activity and deadlines across the year wherever we can, for example allowing more time for the outline Progression strategy and extending the deadline of the annual survey to 14 November.

We do expect all of you to be working to implement these requirements from September 2023, and to build realistic and manageable objectives. Where areas are still in development and will be addressed later in the year we ask that you make this clear to your Relationship Manager. We also recommend that where needed Hubs make use of the 45-day compliance window for submitting your September payment conditions. If you have significant concerns regarding aspects of the funding agreement and/or there are specific extenuating circumstances for your Hub and/or your organisation, please do flag this with your Relationship Manager.

**Is it acceptable to evolve our Local Plan for Music Education (LPME) from our latest business plan, if we are able to meet all the requirements this way, or are you looking for sixteen discrete documents?**

Updated 13 July 2023

Yes. We expect LPMEs to evolve from your existing Business Plans, with existing elements updated or expanded as needed to ensure you meet the requirements and the new NPME.

Your LPME can incorporate any of the new requirements, but if you prefer, these can instead be shared with the Arts Council as separate documents alongside your LPME.

## **2023-24 Governance, Management and Board Reporting Requirements**

**Our Hub board won't meet in time to review our new LPME and related documents ahead of submitting them to the Arts Council in September. Can we submit them without the Hub board having formally approved them?**

Updated 12 June 2023

Yes, we appreciate that the timings might not align for every Hub, however we would expect see evidence of your Hub board, including Hub chair, having been sighted of key documents and being aware of the funding agreement requirements responsibilities of Hub boards.

If the Hub board is unable to review these documents in full ahead of the September payment submission, then please ensure this is clear when they are submitted and indicate when they will be formally signed off. We'd expect this to be in time for the December payment submission if not before.