

VAT Number: 224 8012 38

Company Number: 09550258

### January 2021 Musical Routes Newsletter

Dear schools,

One of the more positive developments to come out of this terrible pandemic is the increased communication we have had with colleagues working in schools. Albeit, drawn together in a mutual quest to keep everyone safe from Covid-19, we value the many conversations we have had with teachers and music leaders over the last few months. Everyone is seeking to continue to provide the best quality music education that we can within the imposed limitations. We have 'met' online and talked on the phone, always underpinned by a mutual desire and dedication to offering all pupils a broad and balanced curriculum including music.

At the time of writing, in the latest Lockdown, Edsential musicians are working hard to learn how to deliver music lessons remotely to children in schools and homes, simultaneously. For schools where live lessons online are not possible, then we are quickly bringing resources on stream, which are easily accessible for parents who find themselves tasked with home-schooling. Tutors continue to teach individual instrumental lessons online, as we have since last April, and our music tutors are very used to online tuition now.

In this newsletter, we look back on the Autumn term and how we adapted our offering to make it COVID-19-safe. We are happy to tailor our service further to meet your specific requirements. We want to reassure all schools that we are fully engaged with our professional bodies to further ensure that we're following industry good practices and that our arrangements and working practices are compliant and fully aligned with local requirements.

Our music service risk assessment is available on our website and we're keeping this under regular review. [Read the latest version here.](#)

We're here and we remain fully committed to supporting you. Keep reading to find out just some of the things we've been up to since September...

Alison Corten, Head of Music Service

Mark Mayhew, Edsential Drum Tutor



Whitby Hall Lodge | Stanney Lane | Ellesmere Port | CH65 6QY

*For further information about any of our services:*

Visit: [www.edsential.com](http://www.edsential.com) | Email: [hello@edsential.co.uk](mailto:hello@edsential.co.uk) | Call: 0151 5412170

@EdsentialUK



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### Creative music-making in schools – our #CanDoMusic Heroes

We would like to start by thanking all of our schools for the support and flexibility you have shown in allowing us to continue supporting your young people in a way that puts safety first.

**#CanDoMusic** is the national campaign to showcase all the brilliant work schools are doing to ensure music education can continue safely. Here's a few of our wonderful **#CanDoMusic heroes** this term:



The Leaps & Bounds team visited Cathcart Street CofE Primary School in November to deliver a very special Gruffalo-themed roadshow. The team received some lovely feedback from Headteacher, Mrs Richards:

*"I cannot explain how uplifting it was to hear such beautiful music floating through our school... The pupils were just enthralled, amazed and in awe to see 'real' music coming from 'real instruments' an experience outside many of our children's everyday lives..."*

[Watch the video and be transported to the 'deep dark wood' here](#)



Pupils at Shocklach Oviatt CofE Primary School recently performed their song 'Made for Love' as part of their school worship.

Edsential vocal tutor, Helen Chetwood, crafted the pupils' very own special words into a beautiful song to embody the school's vision statement and focuses on diversity, peace, love and courageous advocacy.

[Listen to their wonderful performance here](#)

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**More of our #CanDoMusic heroes**



For the chance be featured as an Edsential #CanDoMusic hero next term, be sure to post your school's Edsential Music sessions on Facebook or Twitter, tagging @EdsentialUK and using the hashtag #CanDoMusic

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### **NEW Backstage Pass – Online music scheme for remote delivery**

Backstage Pass is our new, whole-class teaching scheme that ensures whatever happens, schools will continue to have VIP access to Edsential Musicians this year.

- ✓ Can be delivered in-school or remotely by Edsential Musicians
- ✓ Introduces a range of instruments and genres of music to KS2 children
- ✓ Full step-by-step lesson plans and teacher's guide included

Watch the video to find out more:



For more information on our Backstage Pass scheme or to get started in your school, please contact [music@edsential.co.uk](mailto:music@edsential.co.uk)

### **Funded tuition for looked-after children**

Edsential Music Service offer fully funded tuition to all children and young people in the care of the Local Authority, through grant funding secured by Edsential from Arts Council England and the DfE.

Please apply via the [Music Service Portal](#) or email [music@edsential.co.uk](mailto:music@edsential.co.uk) to enquire.

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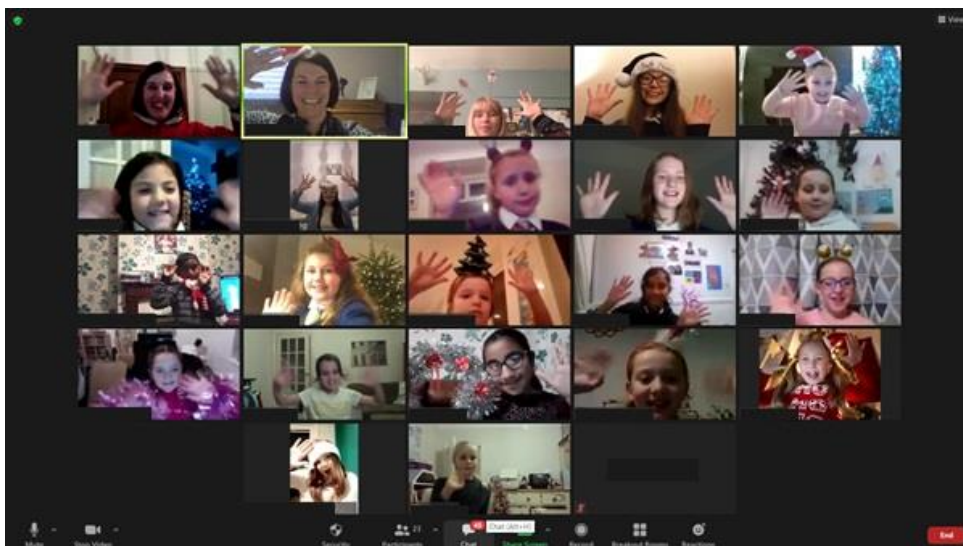
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### Virtuoso – our NEW online choir

Virtuoso is our new, virtual Online Choir for pupils from 8 to 12 years old. The aim of this exciting new choir was to:

- ✓ Ensure accessible and safe singing for children across the area
- ✓ Elicit positive emotions and engender a strong sense of connectedness with others
- ✓ Distract children from negativity and stress, improve their mood and help them to feel safe, calm and comfortable
- ✓ Give children a channel through which they can express emotion, ideas and find their voice in the world
- ✓ Teach and develop good vocal technique
- ✓ Help to improve mood, memory and cognitive performance



Virtuoso takes place every Wednesday and is **free** to any child in a school who is having music lessons with Edsential this academic year. Membership includes access to music centres and all other ensembles and online activities.

More details on how parents and carers can sign up can be found here:

<https://edsential.com/products/virtuoso-junior-choir/>

We have developed a detailed Parent/Carer protocol to enable one-to-one tuition can take place safely online and have had wonderful feedback from both parents and young people. Please ask parents/carers to contact [music@edsential.co.uk](mailto:music@edsential.co.uk) for more information.

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## Dates for your diary Spring Term 2021



**5<sup>th</sup> February 2021:** *Create, write and review a Music Policy* – [Book here](#)

**10<sup>th</sup> February 2021:** *Primary Music – Mapping Provision Effectively* – [Book here](#)

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021:** *Planning and Delivering Creative Music in EYFS* – [Book here](#)

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** *Planning and Delivering Creative Music in KS1* – [Book here](#)

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** *Planning and Delivering Creative Music in Lower KS2* – [Book here](#)

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** *Planning and Delivering Creative Music in Upper KS2* – [Book here](#)

### Virtual Christmas Concert

Thank you to all of the young musicians and tutors that made our first ever 'Virtual Christmas Concert' such a success.

After following weeks of virtual rehearsals, the final concert proved a great way to share festive celebration in a socially distanced way. The concert is still available to watch [HERE](#).



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