Artist Practitioner (Sing for Wellbeing Schools), part-time, freelance

Thank you for your interest in the role of Artist Practitioner with Love Music.

This is **an additional role**, joining our core team of three Artist Practitioners for the remainder of our 2-year project.

Contract: Fixed-term freelance contract until 31st July 2028

Starting date: We would like to start training and planning with the successful candidate as soon as possible following recruitment, ideally starting in January or February 2027

Location: Working in **2 Edinburgh schools**, with meetings in Edinburgh and preparatory work at your home

Hours: See detailed breakdown below

Total fee: £14,340, see detailed breakdown below

Application deadline: 10am on Wednesday 25 November 2026. Late applications will not be reviewed.

How to apply: Fill in the application form, making sure that all sections of the form and all questions are completed. **Please do not send a CV** as it will not be reviewed.
Email your completed application form to cathy@lovemusic.org.uk.

If you are selected for interview, we will ask you to complete a self-disclosure form.

We want to make sure that recruitment processes are not barriers for applicants, so if you have any accessibility needs regarding any part of this process or want to discuss alternative ways to share your skills and relevant experience, please get in touch with Cathy Phillips Brady on cathy@lovemusic.org.uk. If you are offered the position, we will discuss ongoing reasonable adjustments before you start work.

At least 2 professional references will be sought from successful applicants before a position is formally offered. **Please do not send referee information until requested**.

Interview & selection process
The interview will be a 2-part process, taking place on one day. We will ask you to join us at one of our schools to demonstrate your leadership with a teacher and their class. You will be asked to bring a short song suitable for upper primary which you will first teach to the class and then help the class teacher learn how to lead a part of it. We will then ask you to answer some questions with our panel. Full details and questions will be sent in advance to applicants who are shortlisted.

Interview: The interview will take place in person at one of our schools in Edinburgh during the week beginning Monday 30 November 2026.

Interview Expenses
We can offer support towards travel expenses for each interview attended. Information on reimbursement will be provided to candidates who are shortlisted for interviews.

More information
If you have any questions about the role or the application process, please email cathy@lovemusic.org.uk.

Find out more about Love Music on our website: lovemusic.org.uk.

Artist Practitioners for Sing for Wellbeing Schools

Freelance, part-time opportunity to join our team to work on a ground-breaking teacher development project from early 2027 to July 2028.

Love Music is looking to appoint 1 experienced singing leader to join our core team of three Artist Practitioners for the remainder of our 2-year project based in Edinburgh.

You will be an exceptional singing leader with knowledge and experience leading inclusive, play-based singing in primary schools. Your role will empower primary teachers to feel confident in using singing in their classrooms as a tool to build community and wellbeing for children in P4-7. You will have experience in creating or working with a diverse range of appropriate songs and singing games which ensure belonging, inclusivity and equity. Artist Practitioners will be mentored and supported by a wider producing, evaluating and partnership team. An ability to share knowledge is a key aspect of the role. Artist Practitioners will be able to support teachers to become confident singing leaders in their classrooms.

About Sing for Wellbeing Schools

The Sing for Wellbeing Schools programme is a 2-year active learning partnership project. Our partners include Love Music, 8 schools in Edinburgh, Education Scotland, Edinburgh Council and other partners. The programme is part of the prestigious Paul Hamlyn Foundation Teacher Development Fund initiative.

Through Sing for Wellbeing Schools, we hope to deepen understanding of how sustained, classroom-embedded singing can reduce barriers to learning, build equity, and support wellbeing for pupils and teachers in schools experiencing systemic disadvantage. We aim to learn what conditions, approaches, and support structures enable primary teachers to become a confident in using inclusive play-based singing as a sustainable part of everyday school and classroom practice. We aim for teachers to feel able to sing every day with their classes without fear, pressure to be perfect, or reliance on external music specialists. Through active listening and reflective practice, we hope to learn how to enable teachers to combat any singing fears and inspire motivation for self-guided musical exploration, bringing their own authentic musicality and unique identities.

Our 2-year programme focusses on upper primary P4-7, working with selected teachers and their classes in each school through regular in-class workshops and all schools' cohort CPD training days. Every child in participating schools will benefit from this work, through bespoke resources, school-wide singing curriculum planning, and strategic development with school leaders. Our partnership will develop, evaluate and reflect together through local and national community-of-practice thinktanks.

About the Artist Practitioners role

Our Artist Practitioner team is integral to the development of the programme as well as the delivery and will be led by Lead Artist Practitioner and Artistic Director of Love Music, Stephen Deazley. You will be mentored and supported by Stephen and the Love Music team, and where appropriate, our specialist external consultants and partners.

Artist Practitioners act as mentors, coaches and co-learners with class teachers, working within classrooms and in reflection, planning, and community-of-practice sessions. You will build trust and rapport, supporting teachers' personal journeys towards singing. You will model singing leadership in classrooms, supporting teachers with practical and pedagogical resources, guiding them from co-leading to leading independently. You will help teachers build song resources and singing games suited to their individual practice

and context, and work with our wider teams to help embed singing in school routines with bespoke singing strategies and projects. You will help teachers start to use singing regularly as a tool for learning, expression, and collaboration in their school communities.

This programme has a strong commitment to anti-racism and inclusion. We aim to update and diversify song repertoire for our schools beyond existing repertoire and help to build a bank of songs which is relevant to our diverse school communities today. It will be essential that our Artist Practitioner team build a programme of songs which serves our school communities inclusively and can be embedded throughout the Curriculum for Excellence and Scotland's GIRFEC wellbeing agenda.

Artist Practitioners will be assigned to the same schools throughout the duration of the programme, enabling the development of strong relationships with school leaders, participating teachers and children. You will work with **3 teachers and classes per school**, plus school senior leaders, ensuring consistency, trust, and collaborative learning. Teachers will engage as collaborative practitioners within schools and leadership teams, as wider members of a local community-of-practice. We expect Artist Practitioners to have a deep learning experience working with school leaders and teachers.

Over the 2 years, each of our schools receives:

- 24 in-class workshops with teachers in 3 upper primary classes for each school
- Non-contact teacher support coaching and development time
- 8 whole-cohort CPDs and 4 community-of-practice thinktank sessions
- Participation in the national community-of-practice thinktank
- A bespoke school singing strategy
- A school-led singing project in Year 2
- An end of project singing celebration
- New song resources, and support with specialist consultants if required

Artist Practitioners will undertake training in our expected artistic approach, safeguarding and child protection, mental health first aid, and Signalong. Artist Practitioners will support each other and work together alongside the Love Music and wider project team to share practice, approaches and develop resources and strategies.

Essential criteria

We are looking for someone who is:

- Passionate about promoting equity, inclusion and belonging through singing.
- Experienced in leading healthy play-based singing for upper primary age children in contexts such as whole class singing, whole school singing, choirs or ensembles.
- Experienced working within, or responding to, the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.
- Confident in empowering adult learners with empathy, sensitivity, and active listening.
- Strongly committed to anti-racism, practiced in leading culturally sensitive songs across languages, genres, and traditions to reflect diversity and promote belonging.
- Experienced adapting facilitation for specific needs, disabilities, or requirements.
- Experienced creating or arranging singing resources in accessible formats including with visuals, simplified language, audio and video.
- Empathetic, flexible, good listeners and communicators.
- A strong team player and collaborator.
- Positive in their outlook and has a lifelong learning mentality.
- Confident, and an excellent organiser.
- Experienced in reflective practice and evaluation.
- Committed to safeguarding and child protection.

Desirable criteria

Successful candidates may also have:

- Classroom teaching experience or a teaching qualification.
- Experience creating or arranging singing resources in Western Classical Notation.
- Experience leading body percussion, rap or spoken word.
- Experience in coaching.

We want to build a team of Artist Practitioners which reflects the broad diversity and lived experience of our teachers and school communities. We would welcome applications from people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Candidates will be able to provide evidence of their eligibility to work in the UK.

The successful candidate will be subject to a Protection of Vulnerable Groups Disclosure Scotland check and completion of references.

Fees & Commitment

We are recruiting for 1 additional Artist Practitioner position with equal responsibilities and time commitment to the existing core team. The role is offered on a freelance, part-time basis, from early 2027 (ideally January) and ends in July 2028. In-school and CPD activities began in September 2026, and the timetable follows the Edinburgh school academic calendar for both years. Your role will take over in the second term onwards from work already started by others in our core Artist Practitioner team.

We expect the successful candidate to work closely with our large partnership team to agree delivery activities and fixed cohort meeting dates at the start of their engagement. You will have a degree of flexibility when setting the workshop timetables with your assigned schools who have already been working to a negotiated timetable.

We can offer a **total fee of £14,340** which assumes the following commitment:

YEAR 1

- 10 ‘Leading’ workshop days to deliver remaining in-class workshops including 2 CPD days at a rate of £300 per day.
- 15 ‘Non-Leading’ days to include training, 1 CPD and community-of-practice sessions, individual teacher support, resource creation, meetings, administration, evaluation and reflective practice, at a rate of £220 per day.

YEAR 2

- 15 ‘Leading’ days to deliver 24 in-class workshops, CPD leading, a school-led singing project, and an end-of-project sharing celebration, at a rate of £309 per day.
- 15 ‘Non-Leading’ days to include training, CPD and community-of-practice sessions, individual teacher support, resource creation, meetings, administration, evaluation and reflective practice at a rate of £227 per day.

This programme and our school-based work will take place in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Love Music does not have an office and has a remote team. All non-school-based work will happen at your home or at another venue for training and meetings.

Travel expenses will be agreed as necessary.

Privacy Notice

As part of the candidate selection process, Love Music collects and processes personal data relating to applicants. This data, and any data about you that we collect from third parties (such as your referees or Disclosure Scotland as part of your PVG check) will be stored in password protected folders. We will only use your personal data where the law allows us to, most commonly to manage the recruitment process, to enter into a contract with you, and to comply with any legal obligations. We may also need to process your data to respond to and defend against legal claims. Your data will be shared with the recruitment panel and colleagues on the Love Music team; we require all third parties to respect the security of your data and to treat it in accordance with the law. We will retain your personal data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for; if your application is unsuccessful, this will be for a maximum of 6 months after the end of the recruitment process. You have the right to request access to, correction of and, in some circumstances where the law allows, erasure of the personal information we hold about you.