



# **Sutton Music Service**

## **Annual Report**

**September 2010 – July 2011**

Sutton Music Service  
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## **FOREWORD**

Sutton Music Service (SMS) is part of the Children, Young People and Learning Services (CYPLS) of the London Borough of Sutton (LBS), within the Education Learning and Intervention service. The Music Service is based at Wandle Valley School in Carshalton and provides advice and support for schools, parents and pupils on all aspects of music education.

In March 2011, SMS were visited for the third year by the Music Self-Evaluation Partner (MSEP) as part of the Federation of Music Services evaluation programme, funded by DfE. This visit went well and the MSEP was able to observe more of the Whole Class Instrumental Tuition (WCIT) and ensemble work and to meet with all members of the senior management team. Their subsequent report noted that the work of SMS is positively regarded by schools, students, parents and staff. This Music Self-Evaluation Programme has now come to a conclusion. SMS now await publication of the National Plan for Music Education.

SMS continue to build partnerships with more schools through WCIT at KS2. This is now being successfully delivered to students in 16 primary schools in the Borough and all of these schools took part in a KS2 Music Festival at Fairfield Halls in Croydon in June. The success of the continuation programme in schools is evidenced by pupils now attending Music Service activities from a wider range of schools.

Lessons at SMS Music Schools remain hugely popular. Saturday Music School has been running at full capacity for several years and Wednesday Music School has continued to expand this year to increase provision for violin lessons and to meet demand for trumpet lessons. There are now waiting lists for pupils at both music schools for several instruments.

SMS successfully bid for funding from the Mayor of London's Music Education Fund for a joint venture with Croydon Music Service and the London Mozart players in 2011/12. Work on this joint venture has already commenced and the first joint concert will take place in October.

Nigel Hiscock  
Head of Sutton Music Service  
November 2011

## 1. Whole Class Instrumental Tuition

SMS launched its WCIT programme in two pilot schools in 2003. The programme has proven popular and the number of school engaging with WCIT has risen each year. A further two schools, Cheam Park Farm Junior and Muschamp Primary were welcomed to the WCIT scheme in 2010-11.

A wide range of programmes were delivered to 1246 children in 16 schools across the Borough: Abbey Primary, Avenue Primary, Barrow Hedges Primary, Brookfield Primary, Cheam Common Junior, Cheam Park Farm Junior, Dorchester Primary, Federation of St Elphege's Catholic Schools - Junior, High View Primary, Muschamp Primary, Nonsuch Primary, Robin Hood Junior, St Mary's RC Junior, Stanley Park Junior, Tweeddale Primary and Westbourne Primary.

Programmes are delivered to years 4 and 5 and feature woodwind, brass, strings or world music instruments. Each programme is delivered by highly specialist instrumental tutors from SMS, working alongside the classroom teachers. Sessions are planned, organised and delivered in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum. At the end of the programme, children will be able to make an informed choice as to how they want to develop their new musical skills.

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Pupils in 2009-2010</b>	<b>Pupils in 2010-2011</b>
Woodwind	210	208
Brass	360	343
Strings	420	577
World Music	120	118
	<b>1110</b>	<b>1246</b>

Table 1: Number of pupils following each WCIT programme in 2010-2011 compared to 2009-2010

The feedback from schools remains positive:

*"I've been very surprised at how quickly the children have learnt to play."*

*"The teaching has been fun, inspiring and motivating for the children."*

*"The children who took part in the concert at Fairfield Halls had such a great time."*

All schools involved with WCIT performed at the Key Stage 2 Instrumental Music Festival which was held at Fairfield Halls on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. For more information regarding this event please refer to the event highlights.

In the coming years, this programme will impact significantly on the work of the Music Service and in the profile of music in many primary schools. 10% of pupils who received WCIT in 2009-10 continued to learn an instrument in school in 2010-11, (an increase of 2% from 2009-10.) A number of these pupils became members of an SMS ensemble during the year. Further to this, some continuation pupils began receiving tuition at the Saturday Music School and took graded exams.

## **2. Instrumental Tuition in Schools**

During the year, SMS appointed a further seven tutors to its panel of approved tutors. A number of schools used the Approved Instrumental Tuition scheme to either replace leaving tutors or extend the range/capacity of tuition in their schools. 15 different positions were successfully filled, 3 of which were entirely new positions.

## **3. SMS Ensembles**

During the year, SMS offered a variety of ensembles for orchestral and band instrumentalists. These ranged from the Young Musicians String Group (YMSG), aimed at beginners, to the Sutton Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO), a full sized symphony orchestra catering for pupils of the highest ability. 356 pupils attended an SMS ensemble and players' ages range from young primary school children to university students. The ensembles are a great way to enjoy music making and to make new friends.

### ***Young Musicians String Group – (YMSG)***

YMSG members are beginners with a minimum of two terms' experience of learning their instrument. The group rehearses for 1 hour every week on a Monday evening (term-time) and consists of violins, violas, cellos and double basses. When sufficiently experienced, and upon the recommendation of the conductor and tutors, members of YMSG are able to audition for the Young Musicians Training Orchestra (YMTO). The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 28<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### ***Young Musicians Training Orchestra – (YMTO)***

This is the first full orchestra for young players of string, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. The orchestra rehearses for 1 hour every week on Monday evenings (term-time) and performs a wide ranging repertoire including classical, film and pop music. Upon the recommendation of the conductor and tutors, members are able to audition for the Young Musicians Orchestra (YMO).

The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 29<sup>th</sup> November and 28<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### ***Young Musicians Orchestra – (YMO)***

This orchestra has the same instrumentation as YMTTO but performs a more challenging repertoire that includes music of many different styles. The ensemble rehearses weekly for 2 hours on a Friday evening (term-time). With sufficient experience, and upon the recommendation of the conductor and tutors, players can audition to join Sutton Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO). The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 29<sup>th</sup> November and 28<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### ***Sutton Youth Symphony Orchestra – (SYSO)***

SYSO is a full symphony orchestra for advanced orchestral instrumentalists and all players are required to audition. The repertoire is demanding and varied and senior players are often invited to perform solo concertos with the orchestra. The orchestra rehearses weekly for 2.5 hours every Friday evening (term-time). The orchestra takes part in annual European concert tours (year 9+) and regularly plays at prestigious venues in the UK. The orchestra performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 7<sup>th</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> April and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

SYSO performed the following repertoire throughout the year:

Brass Fanfare – Pour précéder la Péri – Paul Dukas  
The Swan of Tuonela for Cor Anglais and Orchestra – Jean Sibelius  
Vltava from Má Vlast – Bedřich Smetana  
Symphony No. 8 – Antonin Dvořák  
Spitfire Prelude and Fugue – William Walton  
Concertino for Xylophone and Orchestra – Toshiro Mayazumi  
Symphony No. 2 – Malcolm Arnold  
Sound Innovations Fanfare – Robert Sheldon  
The Dark Knight – Hans Zimmer and James Newton Howard  
Danzas Cubanas – Robert Sheldon  
Theme from E.T. – John Williams arr. James Ployhar  
Indiana Jones 'Kingdom of the Crystal Skull' – John Williams arr. Ralph Ford  
The Winds of Poseidon – Robert Smith  
James Bond Melody – arr. Victor Lopez  
On Tour, Concerto for Orchestra – Paul du Preez

### ***Sutton Youth Training Band – (SYTB)***

SYTB is for woodwind, brass and percussion instrumentalists and performs a wide-ranging repertoire. Members should have a minimum of two terms' experience of learning their instrument. The ensemble rehearses for 1 hour every

week on Monday evenings (term-time). When sufficiently experienced, and upon the recommendation of the conductor and tutors, members are able to audition for the Sutton Youth Symphonic Band (SYSB). The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 6<sup>th</sup> January and 29<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### ***Sutton Youth Symphonic Band – (SYSB)***

SYSB includes the same instrumentation as the Training Band. The level of playing is higher with a varied repertoire that includes film, TV and show music, jazz and swing, as well as traditional wind band compositions and arrangements. The ensemble rehearses for 1 hour every week on Tuesday evenings (term-time). When players have reached an appropriate standard, and upon the recommendation of the conductor and tutors, members are able to audition for the Sutton Youth Wind Orchestra (SYWO). The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 6<sup>th</sup> January and 29<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### ***Sutton Youth Wind Orchestra – (SYWO)***

SYWO is for advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players. The repertoire is challenging and extremely varied including arrangements and original works for wind band drawn from many styles of music. The ensemble rehearses for 2 hours every week on Tuesday evenings (term-time). SYWO takes part in annual European concert tours and has performed at many prestigious venues in the UK. The ensemble performed in end of term concerts at All Saints Church, Carshalton on 6<sup>th</sup> January and 29<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorking Halls on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

SYWO performed the following repertoire throughout the year:

Triumphal Prelude – Thomas Doss

East Coast Pictures – Nigel Hess

Summon The Heroes – John Williams arr. Paul Lavender

Queen in Concert – arr. Jay Bocook

Flashing Winds – Jan Van der Roos

'Hobbits' from Symphony No. 1 'The Lord of the Rings' – Johan de Meij

Sea Songs – Ralph Vaughan Williams

Fiesta – Clifton Williams

Medley from Miss Saigon – Claude-Michel Schönberg arr. Warren Barker

A Gerhwin Portrait – arr. John Higgins

Cossack Wedding Dance – Peter Graham

Chicago – arr. Victor Lopez

Valero – James Swearingen arr. Mark Probert

Toccata in D minor – arr. Ray Farr and Kevin Lamb

The Symphonic Duke – arr. Tommy Newson

## Ensemble Statistics

<b>Ensemble</b>	<b>Pupils in 2009-10</b>	<b>Pupils in 2010-11</b>
YMSG	29	38
YMTO	62	52
YMO	60	64
YSO	61	62
SYTB	54	57
SYSB	42	37
SYWO	52	46
	<b>360</b>	<b>356</b>

*Table 2: Average number of pupils attending each SMS ensemble in 2010-2011 compared to 2009-2010*

The 356 pupils played the following instruments:

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Pupils in 2009-10</b>	<b>Pupils in 2010-11</b>
Violin	82	88
Viola	19	16
Cello	25	28
Double Bass	7	7
Harp	1	1
Flute	44	41
Oboe	13	10
Clarinet	28	30
Bassoon	6	9
Saxophone	10	10
French Horn	19	18
Trumpet	49	41
Trombone	23	26
Baritone	4	2
Euphonium	1	1
Tuba	6	5
Percussion	23	23
	<b>360</b>	<b>356</b>

*Table 3: Number of pupils playing each instrument in SMS ensembles in 2010-2011 compared to 2009-2010*

#### **4. Saturday Music School**

Saturday Music School was established in January 2000 with funds from what was then the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE). Based at Wandle Valley School, the Music School provides lessons on viola, double bass, oboe, bassoon, french horn, trombone, baritone, euphonium, tuba and percussion. There is also a Percussion Ensemble which is open to pupils who are having lessons on percussion at Saturday Music School or elsewhere. The highly subsidised cost of £50 per term also incorporates theory and aural tuition as well as instrument hire where necessary. All pupils are required to join a borough ensemble after a period of two terms' tuition.

Staffing at Saturday Music School increased to include an additional trombone tutor. This meant that, during the year 11 tutors delivered 1180 hours of instrumental tuition to over 80 pupils and a further 200 hours of theory and aural training were given.

23 Saturday Music School pupils took either instrumental or theory examinations – the results were Fail = 1, Pass = 11, Pass with Merit = 8, Pass with Distinction = 3. Sixty pupils performed in the Saturday Music School Concerts which were originally scheduled for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December but were postponed until Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April due to the adverse weather conditions. Fresh from their performance in the SMS Spring Concert Week, the Saturday Music School Percussion Ensemble performed Jeff Moore's *Michael Jackson Medley*.

In addition to the theory tuition provided at Saturday Music School, theory lessons are also provided on a Monday evening at Wandle Valley School. There are two mixed ability group sessions in which pupils work at their own rate with assistance from the teacher. All pupils eventually work towards achieving Grade 5 theory, which, for some exam boards, is a prerequisite for taking the higher practical grades. The first session takes place from 4.15 to 5.00pm and the second from 5.00 to 5.45pm. The cost is £45 per term. 16 pupils attend these lessons throughout the year.

#### **5. Wednesday Music School**

Building on the success of the Saturday Music School, SMS launched the Wednesday Music School in September 2009 with the aim of providing tuition on instruments not currently available at the Saturday Music School. Based at Wandle Valley School, the Music School now provides lessons on violin, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone and trumpet at the highly subsidized cost of £50 per term. As with Saturday Music School, all pupils are required to join a borough ensemble after a period of two terms' tuition.

The school began with 3 tutors and 15 pupils. The school has expanded throughout the year and now comprises of 8 tutors and 56 pupils. During this

academic year 8 tutors delivered 675 hours of instrumental tuition to over 56 pupils at Wednesday Music School. It is hoped that, over time, Wednesday Music School will grow to a similar size to Saturday Music School. It is anticipated that, from September 2011, 2 additional teachers will be employed to provide further opportunities for trumpet and cello tuition, increasing the capacity of Wednesday Music School to 70 pupils.

10 Wednesday Music School pupils took instrumental examinations; the results were Fail = 1, Pass = 4, Pass with Merit = 2 and Pass with Distinction = 3. 38 pupils performed in the annual Wednesday Music School Summer Concert on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

## **6. Event Highlights**

### **Lodge Hill Residential Weekend**

50 members of the SMS ensembles in Years 7-10 (an increase of 4% from 09-10) spent the weekend of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November at Lodge Hill Centre near Pulborough in West Sussex.

The young musicians, including representatives of most secondary schools in the borough, performed as an orchestra and had the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities, including tunnelling, a sledge run, zip wire and climbing wall. The pupils also took part in a Samba workshop led by Chris Marshall and performed the pieces they learnt in an end of course concert.

### **Concert Weeks**

SMS Ensembles performed in the end of term concert weeks held at All Saints Church, Carshalton. The first of these began on 29<sup>th</sup> November, however concerts scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December had to be rescheduled to 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> January due to adverse weather conditions. The second concert week took place 28<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April. 339 young people took part in the 6 concerts that were given during the concert weeks.

### **Sutton Youth Brass Ensemble Christmas Busking**

For the fifth consecutive year, a brass ensemble formed of players and tutors from our SMS ensembles, were invited to perform festive music in Sutton town centre on 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The performances attracted large crowds of enthusiastic shoppers who gave generously towards Sutton Youth Music Supporters Association (SYMSA), raising £1433.86.

A smaller group of brass players from the Music Service were also invited to perform in a Carol service at Carshalton Methodist Church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Cheryl Jenkins Award**

The Cheryl Jenkins Award is presented annually to a member of SYSO who has made an outstanding contribution to the orchestra. At the rescheduled SYSO concert on 7<sup>th</sup> January, Nigel Hiscock presented the award to Victoria Evans, principal oboe.

### **Halls Green Residential Weekend**

The residential course for members of the SMS ensembles in Years 3-6 took place on the weekend of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May at the Halls Green Activity Centre near Sevenoaks in Kent. The course was attended by 35 pupils who represented many different schools from across the borough. The pupils performed as an orchestra and had the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities, including football, swimming, arts and crafts and an assault course.

The main purpose of the weekend was to allow time for the orchestra and band members to make friends through making music together and just having fun.

### **Schools Concert Day**

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 19 members of SYSO and SYWO formed a mini orchestra and performed to appreciative pupils from All Saints Benhilton Primary, All Saints Carshalton Primary, Barrow Hedges Primary, Forresters Primary and Manor Park Primary at All Saints' Church Carshalton. The SMS pupils introduced the children to the instruments of the orchestra and demonstrated how they worked as well as performing music from a number of popular films including *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *The Incredibles*.

### **Key Stage 2 Instrumental Music Festival**

All 16 schools following a WCIT programme took part in the Key Stage Two Instrumental Music Festival at Croydon's Fairfield Hall on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Over 500 young musicians performed, the majority of whom had only been learning to play their instruments for little more than two terms.

The schools that participated in the festival were: Abbey Primary, Avenue Primary, Barrow Hedges Primary, Brookfield Primary, Cheam Common Junior, Cheam Park Farm Junior, Dorchester Primary, Federation of St Elphege's Junior, High View Primary, Muschamp Primary, Nonsuch Primary, Robin Hood Junior, Stanley Park Junior, St. Mary's RC Junior School, Tweeddale Primary and Westbourne Primary.

The concert also featured Sutton Youth Brass Ensemble, conducted by Mark Probert who performed *Fanfare for the Common Man* and *Valero*. All performers came together for the grand finale, a performance of *Can You Feel the Love Tonight* from Disney's *The Lion King*.

### **Dorking Halls**

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July, SMS staged two end of term concerts at Dorking Halls. The afternoon concert featured the junior and intermediate level ensembles who were well received by a capacity audience. The evening concert was shared by the two senior ensembles: SYSO and SYWO. Over 350 young people performed in the concerts.

### **Summer Concert Tour**

69 young musicians from SMS ensembles went on the Summer concert tour to Barcelona in Spain. Appearing as Sutton Youth Concert Band and Sutton Youth Concert Orchestra, the young musicians gave concerts at the Stadium in Roda de Bara, Plaza Catalunya in Cunit, the Museu Deu Gardens in El Vendrell and in the Seminari Courtyard in Barcelona.

The ensembles performed a wide variety of music, ranging from original compositions to arrangements of popular movie soundtracks for both symphony and wind orchestra.

In previous years, summer tours have visited a wide range of countries including the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Holland, Italy and Switzerland.

## **7. Music Service Evaluation**

During the year all Music Services were re-visited by a Music Service Evaluation Partner (MSEP) as part of the Federation of Music Services (FMS) evaluation programme funded by the DfE.

In March 2011, SMS had a follow-up visit by their Music Service Evaluation Partner (MSEP). The MSEP observed part of the WCIT Programme, met with school based staff and with members of the SMS Senior Management Team.

In the report the MSEP commented that SMS “has made very good progress in its development since the previous evaluation. Strategic planning to support future expansion has been significant.”

## **8. Edith Murphy Foundation**

SYMSA has been awarded a grant which will enable young people from low-income families in the London Borough of Sutton to learn to play an orchestral instrument. The Edith Murphy Foundation provides funding that will enable a child to have group or individual lessons at school, hire an instrument if required and after two or three terms of tuition, join one of the Borough ensembles. The scheme is available to low-income families in receipt of Income Support or similar benefits.

## **9. Instrument Hire & Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme**

SMS runs a very successful instrument hire scheme, hiring over 1,000 instruments to parents of pupils at London Borough of Sutton maintained schools.

SMS offers an Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme which enables students who receive tuition at a Local Authority maintained school or at the SMS Music Schools to purchase a new instrument. These instruments are VAT exempt.

## **10. Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

### **South West London Music Services Instrumental and Vocal Conference**

Once again members of SMS staff were invited to join with colleagues from Croydon, Hammersmith & Fulham, Hounslow, Kingston, Merton, Richmond and Wandsworth Music Services to take part in the Instrumental and Vocal Teaching Conference held at Braithwaite Hall in Croydon on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Delegates were addressed by Margaret Griffiths and Paul Robertson. Members were also given the opportunity to attend a variety of seminars. The subject areas included: Planning for Musical Learning, Professional Teaching Standards, Running Ensembles Creatively as well as an Induction for new teachers.

### **Key Stage Two Open University/Trinity Guildhall CPD Programme**

In September 2007 the Open University and Trinity Guildhall launched their Key Stage 2 CPD programme. The main aim of the course was to improve professional practice at KS2 within the context of whole class instrumental and vocal work. During the year two members of SMS staff were mentors of this programme.

## **Music Co-ordinators/Head of Music Network Meetings**

The Music Service once again staged termly meetings for Music Co-ordinators/Heads of Music. These meetings are designed to give school based staff further training and to enable them to share experiences with colleagues.

## **11. Website Development**

Since its relaunch in May 2008, the SMS website <http://www.suttonmusicservice.org.uk> has continued to provide information for pupils, parents/carers, staff and schools on all aspects of the work of the music service. The success of the website is measured by its popularity. In the last twelve months, the website has received 23,109 visits (an increase of 10% from the previous twelve months) from 6,391 unique visitors (an increase of 10%). On average, the website is visited 58 (an increase of 9%) times a day for around four minutes per visit. The Ensemble news Bulletin for March was the most popular download, viewed by 191 people.

During the year the online application facility was introduced. 126 online applications were received, 72% of which were applications for the Wednesday Music School.

## **12. Sutton Youth Music Supporters Association**

SYMSA is a registered charity which was created ten years ago to support Sutton Music Service in it's aim to bring music to the young people of the Borough. Parents and carers of our players are all SYMSA members and the SYMSA committee encourages every family to become involved. The SYMSA committee provide help and financial support at concerts, for tours abroad with our senior players and for residential weekends organised for our younger players. Committee members are elected annually in October and SYMSA welcome all new members.



### **13. Glossary of Terms**

CPD – Continuous Professional Development

DfE – Department for Education

EMF – Edith Murphy Foundation

FMS – Federation of Music Services

KS1 – Key Stage One

KS2 – Key Stage Two

KS3 – Key Stage Three

MSEP – Music Service Evaluation Partner

SMS – Sutton Music Service

SYMSA – Sutton Youth Music Supporters Association

SYSB – Sutton Youth Symphonic Band

SYTB – Sutton Youth Training Band

SYSO – Sutton Youth Symphony Orchestra

SYWO – Sutton Youth Wind Orchestra

WCIT – Whole Class Instrumental Tuition

YMO – Young Musicians Orchestra

YMSG – Young Musicians String Group

YMTO – Young Musicians Training Orchestra