

FAST Training overview

Overview and Aims

Essex Music Education Hub (led by Essex Music Services) receives funding from Department for Education (via Arts Council England) to deliver a range of Core and Extension roles, as outlined in the National Plan for Music education.

Core Role A relates to First Access:

a) Ensure that every child aged 5-18 has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument (other than voice) through whole-class ensemble teaching programmes for ideally a year (but for a minimum of a term) of weekly tuition on the same instrument.

This FACT (First Access Certified Tutors) training programme forms a key part of our re-launched First Access offer, which includes additional pay for FACT tutors; extra time allocated to each eligible school and planning time.

The overall aim of the relaunched First Access offer is to:

- Make the offer more attractive to schools by increasing the quality and length of the offer.
- Complement the existing curriculum and wider musical offer of KS2 schools.
- Strengthen outcomes and legacy for children who partake.
- Increase the number of instrumental players across Essex.
- Increase the number of pupils entering secondary school who play a musical instrument.
- Support progression routes into Music Schools and Ensembles.
- Give a high-quality inspirational musical experience to a broad range of children across Essex.

This training ground-breaking four-day training programme will prepare all tutors (whether experience in First Access or not) for the new relaunched offer through an exciting range of mandatory and optional sessions led by a range of Hub partners. These will cover a huge variety of First Access-related themes, enabling everyone to take something away from the course which can improve and inform their professional practice. The course will also include plenty of opportunities to try out ideas, discuss ideas with colleagues and self-reflect.

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Practical Expectations

During the week

Every session	You will be presented with a 'reflective question' to support you in applying the learning from the workshop to your own professional practice and teaching contexts. Each reflective session will need a written response of roughly 250 words to outline your response to the session, what you have learned from it, and how you will apply it to your First Access Teaching.
What are we looking for?	Thoughtful and practical responses which demonstrate full engagement with each session, and understanding of the learning outcomes and reflection on how it will support or develop your practice in First Access Teaching.
Note	Please ensure that each response is typed and clearly labelled with the session it relates to

Professional Action Plan

Every day	You have been provided with a 'Professional Action Plan' pro forma. This is a living document which should be used to write down thoughts and reflections in each session to document your 'reflection-in-action'. At the end of the week, this will need formalising into an action plan which pulls together the workshops and tasks from the week in to a document which shows how the learning from each will come together to support and develop your practice.
What are we looking for?	Evidence that each teacher has an understanding of their own strengths and areas for development, that they can apply professional learning to their own teaching contexts on an ongoing basis, and can express this in terms of the impact on their pupils' learning.
Note	Please ensure that the final version of your final Professional Action Plan is typed. You may want to submit your 'working draft' in your portfolio as evidence of engagement with the sessions

Additional requirements

Tasks	<p>You will be expected to complete a number of tasks which will make up part of your final portfolio submission. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One detailed lesson plan completed using one of the templates provided.• One warm-up exercise detailed and explained• An explanation of one instrument specific resource (digital or print) that you would use in First Access, and how you would use it.
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	There is no expectation on the exact format used to complete any of the above.
What are we looking for?	In all tasks submitted, we are looking for evidence that tutors can plan effectively; differentiate to meet the learning needs and styles of all pupils; utilise warm ups to engage pupils and give lessons shape an appropriate sense of pace; and find and effectively utilise a range of resources to enrich their First Access lessons.
Note	Please ensure that the final version of any written tasks is typed, and that the content of each task is unique to yourself.

After the training week

At the end of the week	<p>Thursday afternoon is a dedicated time for completing your portfolios. Your final portfolio will consist of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Final Professional Action Plan2. Response to the reflective question from each training session3. Tasks (lesson plan, warm-up, resources description) <p>It may also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working drafts of your action plan• Additional responses, thoughts, reflections from the week <p>You are welcome to discuss your portfolio with other tutors during this time and share ideas, but submitted written work must be individual and unique.</p>
Presentation	<p>It should be presented as a single Word document, organised in the following structure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Name2. Sessions attended3. Professional Action Plan4. Reflective responses (each one clearly labelled with the session they pertain to)5. Warm-up/Starter activity6. Lesson Plan7. An explanation of one instrument specific resource8. Any other responses/detail <p>Please name your Word document in the following format: FAST_SurnameFirstname.doc</p>

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Submission deadlines	<p>All portfolios must be emailed to:</p> <p><i>Andrew Coles – Andrew.Coles@essex.gov.uk</i></p> <p>And must be received by: <i>Tuesday 26th of July by 17:00</i></p> <p>You will receive an email receipt once your portfolio has been received – if you do not receive this confirmation, please check your junk mail, and if it has not arrived, contact the office on 03330 139363 to confirm receipt.</p>
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