



# CREATE

## STANDARDS & QUALITY REPORT

2023-24

[www.glasgowcreate.online](http://www.glasgowcreate.online)



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## INTRODUCTION

The CREATE Standards and Quality Report sets out the story of a service that is going from strength to strength. From the initial tentative return to in-person concerts and regular lessons post-Covid, there has been a step change in the quality of performances. The service did a great job of keeping the flame burning during the dark days of lockdown, with no singing and no wind instruments, to where we are today. The quality of performances has been of the highest standard over the past year, which is a reflection of the hard work taking place every day in our schools. CREATE, however, is about the broad range of expressive arts, including art and design, dance, and drama. The service has also developed very productive partnerships with a range of individuals and organisations that benefit our children and young people. We maintain strong links with colleagues in Glasgow Life—through Celtic Connections, for example—and GoMA, to try and maintain a pipeline of talented young musicians and artists to build on the significant strengths of Glasgow as a thriving cultural centre. It is a pleasure to be associated with such a dedicated group of professionals in CREATE who ensure great experiences for our young people and very positive outcomes. This Standards and Quality Report can't possibly capture everything the service does but sets out the main highlights of a very positive year.



## VISION STATEMENT

At Glasgow CREATE, we are committed to transforming expressive arts education by ensuring that every child and young person in Glasgow has access to high-quality, inclusive, and inspiring creative learning experiences. In alignment with Education Services' All Learners, All Achieving strategy, we strive to foster a culture of creativity that enhances attainment, equity, and wellbeing for all learners.

Through our city-wide groups and ensembles—including the Glasgow Schools' Big Band, Youth Theatre, Brass Ensembles, Choirs, Concert Bands, and more—we provide exceptional opportunities for children and young people to develop their artistic skills, collaborate with peers, and celebrate their achievements on local, national, and international stages.

Beyond performance, we are dedicated to embedding expressive arts across the curriculum, supporting schools in delivering high-quality creative learning experiences that nurture innovation, critical thinking, confidence, and wellbeing. We recognise the transformative power of the arts in equipping children and young people with essential skills for life, learning, and work—fostering resilience, adaptability, and leadership.

At the heart of CREATE is a commitment to equity and inclusion, ensuring that every learner—regardless of background, ability, or circumstance—can access and benefit from expressive arts education. We actively support teachers through professional learning, co-designing approaches that integrate creativity into teaching and learning.

By working in partnership with schools, cultural organisations, artists, and the wider community, CREATE champions collaboration and innovation in arts education. Through continuous reflection and improvement, we aim to build a vibrant, dynamic, and inclusive creative learning culture that empowers children and young people to thrive in an ever-changing world.

## CREATE STAFFING STRUCTURE



## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SERVICE

In 2023-24, CREATE Instrumental Music Service (IMS) delivered instrumental music tuition to **8,498 children & young people** as detailed below.

INSTRUMENT	NO. OF PUPILS
<b>Strings</b>	<b>3190 pupils</b>
<b>Woodwind</b>	<b>856 pupils</b>
<b>Brass</b>	<b>547 pupils</b>
<b>Percussion / Drum Kit</b>	<b>1652 pupils</b>
<b>Guitar</b>	<b>1027 pupils</b>
<b>Traditional Instruments (Exc. Bagpipes &amp; Highland Drumming)</b>	<b>104 pupils</b>
<b>Bagpipes/Chanter</b>	<b>153 pupils</b>
<b>Highland Drumming</b>	<b>135 pupils</b>
<b>Voice</b>	<b>490 pupils</b>
<b>Piano/Keyboard</b>	<b>344 pupils</b>

CREATE Instrumental Music Service remains the cornerstone of instrumental education across Glasgow schools, delivered by a dedicated team of **60 full-time equivalent (FTE) instructors and senior leaders**. These skilled educators not only provide instrumental lessons but also facilitate access to ensemble music making, creating vital opportunities for young people to showcase their musical talents within the school environment. In addition, they coordinate outings to external musical events and concerts, while encouraging participation

in city wide play days, and masterclasses. These efforts extend further by actively supporting the delivery of the SQA music qualifications, as well as a range of external examinations, including Trinity, ABRSM, MTB, and Young Scottish Music Leadership awards.

This year, CREATE's primary focus has been to intensify its efforts in removing barriers to participation. In pursuit of this ambitious goal, CREATE introduced several innovative programmes. These include the Brass Academies, designed to nurture budding brass musicians, and the introduction of Baby Woodwind classes, offering the earliest stages of musical education to the youngest talents. The establishment of new City Ensembles has also enriched the musical landscape by creating exciting opportunities for students to participate in diverse musical ensembles. Moreover, CREATE has broadened its collaborative network by forging new and robust partnerships with external organisations, solidifying its commitment to providing a comprehensive and well-rounded musical education experience.

The collective impact of these initiatives has been as follows: The number of young people and children accessing instrumental lessons has seen a **21% increase** from 7,043 in the academic year 2022-23 to 8,498 in 2023-24. Furthermore, the ripple effect of this expansion is evident in the increased participation of young people in CREATE's City Groups, Play Days, SQA days and Masterclasses resulting in more young people progressing towards higher education in music. Notably, four talented young musicians have earned coveted placements on the RCS BMus performance course, a testament to their musical prowess. Additionally, two students have achieved admission to the RCS BEd course, further underlining CREATE's commitment to nurturing music educators.

# CITY GROUPS & ENSEMBLES



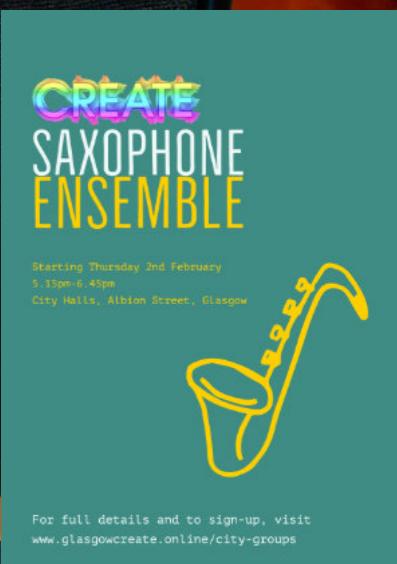


## MUSIC GROUPS & ENSEMBLES

CREATE City Groups and Ensembles include Symphonic Wind Band, Junior Brass, Senior Brass, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Intermezzo Orchestra, String Orchestra, String Sinfonia, Chamber Choir, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Big Band, Guitar Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, Saxophone Ensemble, Flute Choir and String Ensemble.

All groups and ensembles were enhanced through the provision of additional instruments, resources and staffing. This resulted in an increased number of children and young people accessing high quality group music making and performance opportunities, with a total of **529 participants**.

**85 children and young people** also performed as part of Glasgow Schools' Symphony Orchestra. Following five days of intensive rehearsals at their residential course, GSSO put on an outstanding performance at City Halls.



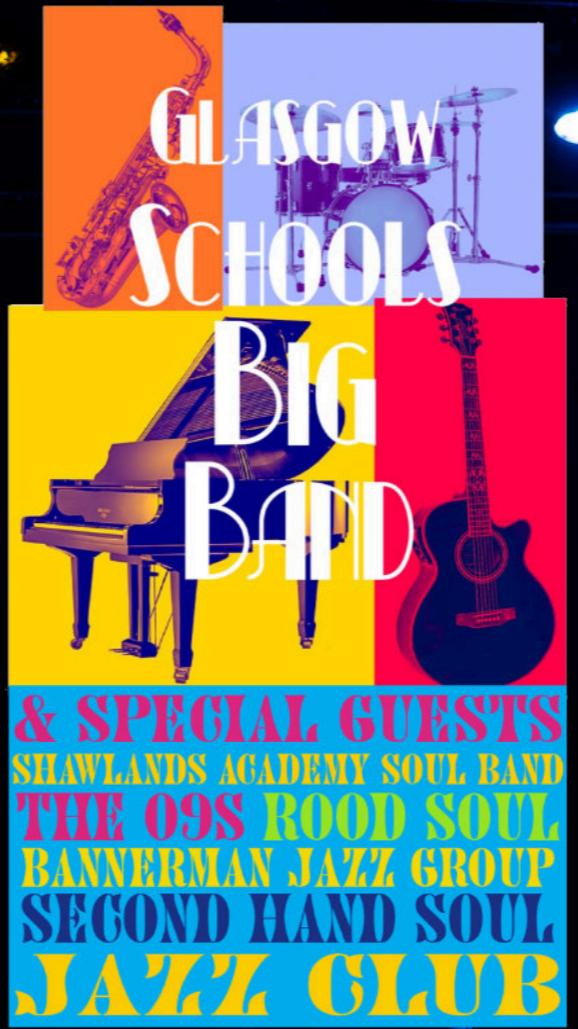


## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

In 2023-24, Glasgow CREATE provided many performance opportunities for young performers including : Young People's Conference at the SEC , Clarinet Choir Concert in conjunction with the Scottish Clarinet Choir, Springfield Cambridge Parish Church Charity Concert, Holocaust Memorial Day, Young Musician Competition, Glasgow Schools' Big Band & Special Guests Gig at the Old Fruitmarket, String Ensemble Exchange performances in Lliria and Valencia, Glasgow Barga Event at City Chambers, Europe Day at City Chambers, CREATE Festival, SCO Academy, String Ensemble summer concert, Baby Strings Extravaganza concert at City Halls, as well as our annual CREATE Concerts & Chamber concerts to showcase our smaller ensembles.



# AN EVENING OF JAZZ, FUNK & SOUL



## A HIGHLIGHT OF 2024

was Glasgow Schools' Big Band headlining their own show in the Old Fruitmarket, and inviting special guest bands from across Glasgow secondary schools. The setting and atmosphere of this iconic venue provided a perfect backdrop for an evening of Jazz, Funk & Soul.

On the night, we were treated to performances from Shawlands Academy Soul Band, The 09s from Hillhead High School, Bannerman Jazz Group, Rood Soul representing Holyrood Secondary School, Second Hand Soul of Lourdes Secondary School, and Jazz Club from St Andrews Secondary School.

In total, there were **119 pupils** from **20 secondary schools** performing on stage.



A close-up, side-view photograph of a young girl with dark skin and long, dark braided hair. She is wearing a light blue t-shirt and is playing a red violin. Her left hand is on the neck of the violin, and her right hand is holding a bow. The background is blurred, showing other children and violins.

2,047 PRIMARY CHILDREN RECEIVED  
WEEKLY WHOLE-CLASS STRING  
TUITION

12 SCHOOLS FROM ACROSS GLASGOW  
SIGNED UP FOR PROJECT

12 TUTORS DELIVERING PROJECT

# BABY Strings



A transformative and innovative project which began in 2017 across 4 schools in the Eastbank learning community of Glasgow, Baby Strings has now expanded to **12 schools** across the city, employing **12 tutors** to deliver weekly, whole class string lessons to **2,047 primary school children**. An **additional 2 schools** are currently joining the programme in 2024/25.

The project was initially supported through PEF (Pupil Equity Fund) and has been bolstered by additional funding made available from Scottish Government to Instrumental Music Services plus core Instrumental Music Instruction.

Initially P1 children prepare for instrumental lessons through Kodály based lessons using voice, rhythm, pitch and movement. Violins, violas and cellos are introduced in P2. Performances, which are seen as a vital part of the programme are introduced from the start.

Parents and carers are encouraged to participate in the project, making cardboard instruments with children, attend 'meet the teacher' sessions, 'show and tell' and attend performances, which have enabled families to experience the project first hand, learning a new shared vocabulary through the language of music. The children and their families have engaged well in the experience.

Children from P4 and above are regularly attending CREATE City Music groups on Saturday mornings in City Halls.

Classroom teachers are involved in CLPL training throughout the course of the year which then enables them to deliver part of the Baby Strings lessons from shared weekly lesson plans without the specialist instructor being present.

The schools involved in CREATE Baby Strings initiatives have clear procedures in place to evaluate the impact of the programme on wider attainment, achievement and wellbeing. They have reported that evidence has shown that it has contributed to increasing attainment in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing for almost all children. Evaluation has also shown that parents/carers are supportive of the project and value the impact it is having on their children.

 [Download our Baby Strings Standards & Quality Report for 2023-24.](#)



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT  
**PERFORMANCE**  
**LISTENING**  
**SELF CONFIDENCE**  
**SOCIAL SKILLS**  
**SENSE OF BELONGING**  
**TEAM WORK**  
**SELF DISCIPLINE**  
**SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**  
**CO-OPERATION**  
**RESPONSIBILITY**  
**COMMITMENT**  
**MUTUAL SUPPORT**  
**BONDING TO MEET**  
**GROUP GOALS**  
**INCREASED CONCENTRATION**  
**FINE MOTOR SKILLS**  
**RELAXATION**  
**ENJOYMENT**  
**TRANSITIONS**  
**WIDER OPPORTUNITIES**  
**SHARED LANGUAGE**  
**RESPECT**



## PLAY DAYS & MASTERCLASSES

In 2023-24 we were able to provide our children and young people the opportunity to engage in high quality Play Days and Masterclasses in City Halls, CREATE's Centre of Excellence for Performance, delivered by world-class performers. Several examples include:

**BBC SSO Principal Clarinet No 2 Adam Lee**, a graduate of RCS, delivered a masterclass for some of our advanced SQA clarinet soloists & the Clarinet Choir, as well as performing a solo piece for us.

A Hamilton workshop was delivered for 100 young people by **Luke Sprague** from the RCS Musical Directing course alongside vocal instructor Jemma Brown.

**World famous soprano Judith Howarth** (a Penilee High School alumna), delivered a masterclass for 100 children, and enjoyed it so much she returned to adjudicate our Young Musician Final.

**BEGINNER PLAY DAYS** - To promote & encourage group performance, & to help provide a stepping stone for young people who are almost ready but not yet attending CREATE Music Groups.

**INTERMEDIATE PLAY DAYS** - To further enhance ensemble playing, musicianship & technical skills. Friendships across the city that have already been forged through the Beginner Play Days and involvement in our Junior/Beginner ensembles are strengthened as we work in teams to build a cohesive ensemble experience.

**SQA/MASTERCLASS** - To prepare for exam/recital performances & to celebrate the many transferable skills that studying music offers. Dealing with the mental health aspects of performance anxiety, negative mindset, lack of confidence etc by offering strategies such as mindfulness, breathing exercises & relaxation opportunities that young people can also utilise in other aspects of studying & everyday life. Instilling confidence and the resilience to be able to cope with any scenario no matter how challenging. A specific focus on more

advanced instrumental technique gives a good grounding for achieving full potential in SQA performance exams or recital opportunities. Working with specialist musicians to benefit from their expertise in all of these technical areas and to understand that they have the same anxieties too and that it is human to worry.

**NEW PLAY DAYS** for this academic year included a Rhythm Section Play Day and an Early Music Chamber Group for Woodwind and Strings.

### ENGAGEMENT

**1,026** pupils attended Strings & Guitar Play Days / Masterclasses

**225** pupils attended Woodwind Play Days / Masterclasses

**86** pupils attended Percussion Play Days / Masterclasses

**220** pupils attended Brass Play Days / Masterclasses

**76** pupils attended Voice Play Days / Masterclasses

**49** pupils attended Piano Play Days / Masterclasses





## SECONDARY DANCE DAY

Our Secondary Dance Day, held in June, focused on pupils who were studying the subject in their school. This event was held in the University of Glasgow and allowed the young people to work with two professional choreographers and learn about the dance pathways currently available in the university.

**40 S3 pupils**, from **8 schools**, participated in sessions designed to complement and challenge their jazz and hip-hop skills. For the supervising teachers it was also an opportunity to engage in developing their own practise and take what they had seen back to their school.



# GLASGOW SCHOOLS YOUTH THEATRE



## GLASGOW SCHOOLS YOUTH THEATRE

After several years on hiatus, the Glasgow Schools' Youth Theatre (GSYT) returned in 2023 with its production of Disney's **High School Musical Jr.**, the first show since 2018. Established by Glasgow Drama teacher Ronnie Mackie, GSYT has long provided pupils from all backgrounds with opportunities to explore the performing arts in a welcoming and inclusive environment.



For decades, GSYT staged full-scale musicals in professional venues across Glasgow, becoming a key part of the city's cultural calendar.

Open to secondary pupils from S1 to S6, the Youth Theatre

typically runs from September to February, culminating in a major production. Registration at the start of each academic term ensures accessibility, with support from Performing Arts staff across Glasgow playing a crucial role in enabling pupils to participate.

The return of GSYT in 2023 marked a significant milestone, providing young people with renewed opportunities to engage in theatre, rebuild confidence, and rediscover the joy of performing. Voluntarily staffed by six teachers, **60 pupils** from **20 secondaries** across the city worked together for four short months to create a performance which did just that.

The choice of High School Musical Jr. reflected GSYT's commitment to accessible, dynamic productions that resonate with audiences. Rehearsals began in November, following a competitive audition process. Weekly sessions of 2.5 to

3 hours focused on music, choreography, and staging, demanding considerable dedication as pupils balanced rehearsals with other commitments. The process fostered skill-building, teamwork, and resilience, offering participants a chance to grow both artistically and personally.

The production highlighted the hard work of the cast, who delivered a cohesive and energetic performance that showcased their ability to rise to the creative and technical challenges of the show.

The relaunch of GSYT was more than just a return to the stage; it



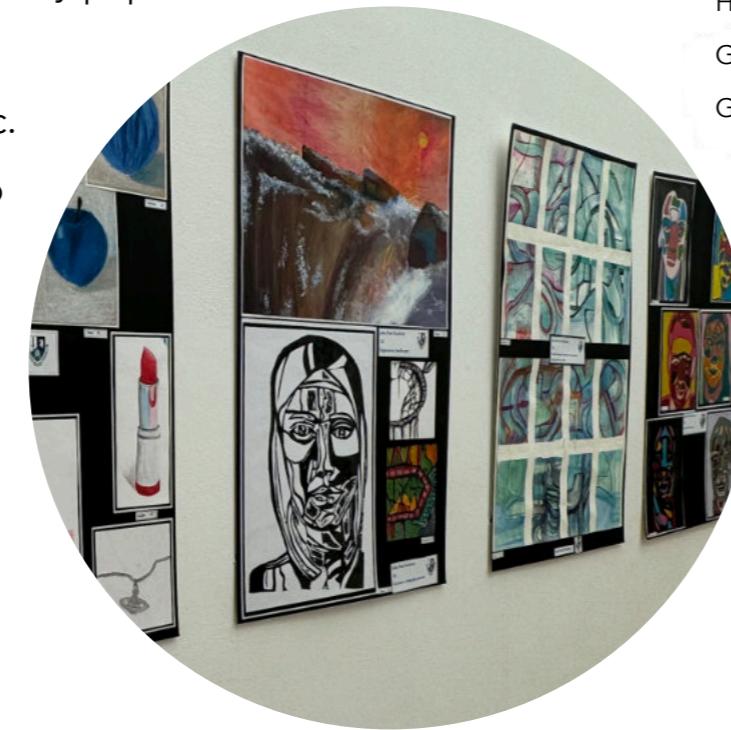
re-established a vital creative outlet for Glasgow's young people. With its strong legacy, GSYT is set to continue enriching the cultural and educational landscape of the city.

# GLASGOW SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION



## GLASGOW SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION

Ran from 3<sup>rd</sup> May - 21<sup>st</sup> June at **COMMONS**pace, the new community exhibition space at GoMA, located at the rear of Gallery 2. This was the 2nd year of the relaunched Glasgow Schools' Art Exhibition. Works were submitted from **17 schools** and were made by pupils in S1 – S6. Showcasing a fantastic range of creativity from across the city, the exhibition changed every two weeks with works from the schools listed. The Exhibition gives secondary pupils an opportunity to submit work that is displayed in a professional setting and visited by the wider public. CREATE's partnership with Glasgow Museums also enabled featured Art & Design departments to engage with education workshops and encouraged young people to explore and engage with the Gallery of Modern Art themselves.



**3 – 16 May**

All Saints RC School  
Holyrood RC Secondary  
Govan High School  
Govan High School LCR

**18 – 30 May**

Hazelwood School  
Hillhead High School  
Hyndland Secondary  
Holybrook Academy

**1 – 13 June**

Cardinal Winning Secondary  
John Paul Academy  
St Andrew's RC Secondary  
St Mungo's Academy

**15 – 30 June**

Springburn Academy  
Lourdes Secondary  
Sgoil Ghàidhlig Glaschu  
Shawlands Academy  
Knightswood Secondary

**GO MA**  
COMMONSPACE GALLERY  
3RD MAY - 21ST JUNE  
visit [www.glasgowlife.org.uk](http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk) for opening hours





**IN 2023-24, CREATE YMI TUTORS** planned and delivered progressive skills-based lessons on a fortnightly basis for the full year in all **152 Primary and Primary ASN Schools** to develop children's music making skills, involving approximately **8,379**

**children.** Tutors worked with all P1 children, and P2

children where time allowed. Lessons focused on developing music skills as well as language skills. All class teachers were encouraged to be active participants and had access to lesson plans and digital resources via the CREATE website and Glasgow's

curricular Framework for Expressive Arts to support the continuation of music learning and development of skills in the alternate week when a Tutor was not present. **Almost all** teachers who responded to the end of year survey said that their confidence in teaching music had increased as a result of engaging with the modelled music lessons.

*"The children have been developing a sense of beat and rhythm and beginning to show some understanding of pitch."* (Class Teacher)

*"The awareness of different instruments is great and often talked about outside the YMI sessions."* (Class Teacher)

*"All of the P1 classes have learned how to play the beat, the rhythm and differentiate between the two. They started by doing this orally and are now at the point of visualising the beat and rhythm using beat/rhythm flashcards. P2 classes are now starting to read, write and perform rhythms using stick notation."* (CREATE YMI Tutor)

*"All children love and are engaged in the music sessions. They take the stories, songs and rhymes during the session and carry them out into the playground."* (Class Teacher)

**152 SCHOOLS  
8,379 P1 & P2 CHILDREN RECEIVED MUSIC INPUT**



In addition to music skills, teachers observed a range of wider benefits of the music programme including phonological awareness, literacy, communication, concentration, working memory, participation, co-ordination, turn taking, listening, social skills and self-expression.

*"Children have developed their listening, focus and concentration. It has had a clear impact on their phonological awareness, in particular, syllabic awareness and rhyme."* (Class Teacher)

*"EAL students have found this a safe place for them to practice English and I saw their confidence grow."* (Class Teacher)

*"I have observed the children growing in confidence to join in with group performances for the wider school community."* (St Roch's Primary Class Teacher)

*"YMI in Gaelic has been beneficial to the children's engagement and enjoyment of music and has been fantastic for the development of their Gaelic (as we do a lot of this through song) and for their reading skills in Phonological Awareness and syllabification."* (Teacher – Glasgow Gaelic Primary)

# EVERYONE BELONGS



## EVERYONE BELONGS / THA A H-UILE DUINE AN SEO

This year's citywide music project titled "Everyone Belongs / Tha a h-uile duine an seo" invited all primary schools across Glasgow to participate in a musical celebration of equality and diversity. To support the learning process, teaching videos, backing tracks, and lyrics were provided by CREATE YMI Tutors, catering to all stages and including sections in Makaton and Gaelic. During the instrumental interlude, children creatively incorporated the phrase "Everyone Belongs" in various languages of their choice, showcasing Glasgow's rich linguistic diversity.

Teacher feedback indicated that having the online resources accessible via the CREATE website made it easy to learn and practise the song with the children with the full performance demonstration video receiving **5,812 views**.

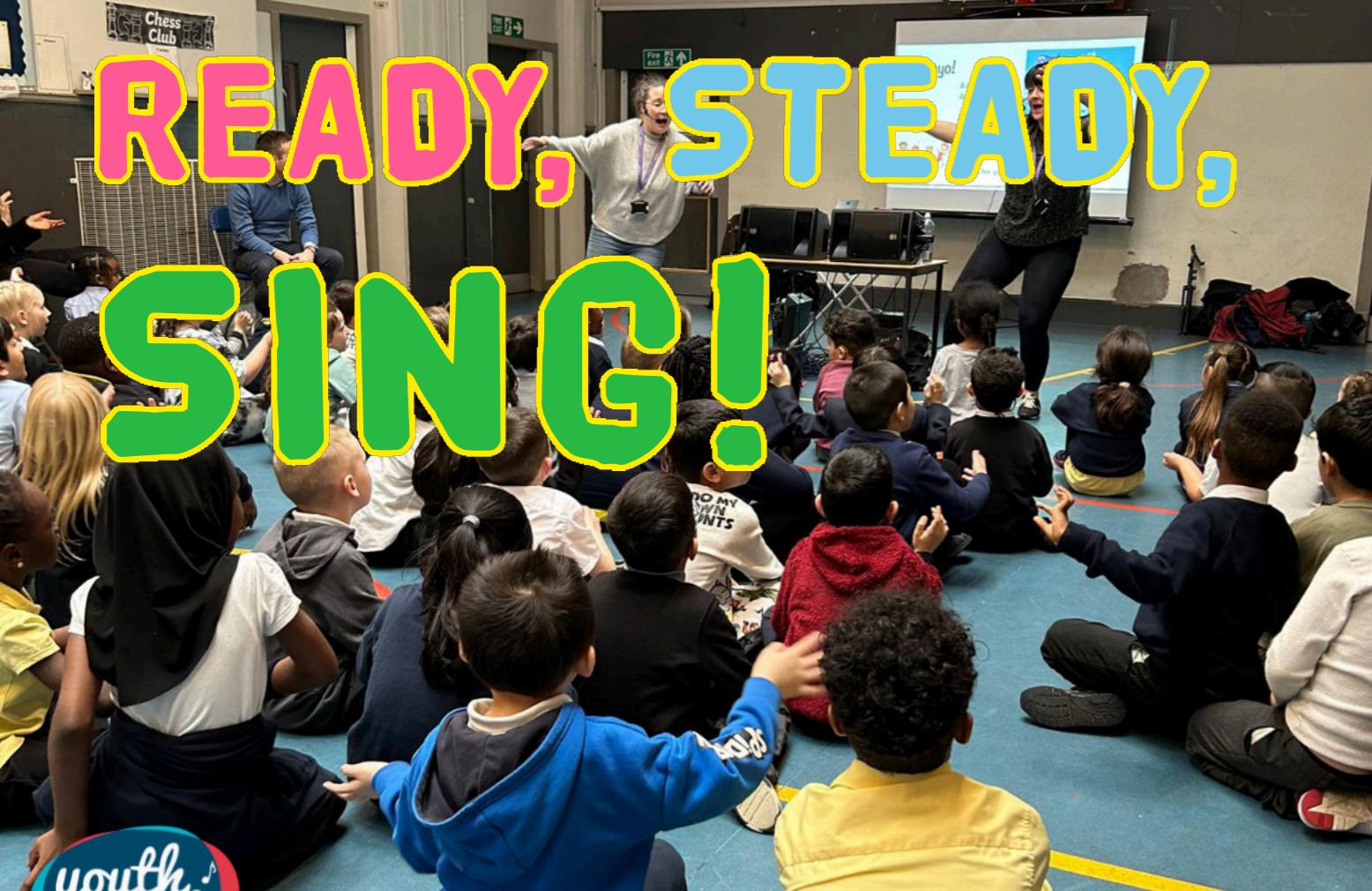
A total of **278 videos** were received **from 110 schools** and edited together into the final Everyone Belongs city-wide digital performance video. This was launched on 21st June 2024 to celebrate World Music Day and had received over **1,100 views** at the time of publishing.

Watch the final performance at  
<https://youtu.be/UPBMKAihr04>  
 or scan the QR code on the right.



Teachers and Tutors reported that the song choice was engaging, relevant and enjoyable for all children and linked to wider learning across the curriculum. The inclusion of Makaton and Gaelic language was noted as particularly beneficial. Many schools also organised live performances during assemblies and school concerts, which extended the reach and impact of the project.





YMI tutors expanded their delivery of whole school '**Ready Steady Sing**' sessions to include **28 schools**, with participation of **8,172 children across P1-7**. These sessions used singing, movement and body percussion to create enjoyable and inclusive large group music making experiences for learners and highlighted the work of the CREATE YMI Music Programme to teachers and young people.

Teachers highlighted the main benefits of these sessions as:

- ♪ increased engagement, participation, enjoyment and development of basic musical skills
- ♪ activities were fun and promoted confidence in singing with a group
- ♪ sessions were interactive, inclusive and collaborative
- ♪ the sessions gave teachers ideas for delivering music with their own class
- ♪ activities were well facilitated by tutors who were engaging and supportive.



**"I thought it was great that the pupils had the opportunity to learn a song in a different language and that the pupils were able to sing two different parts."** (Teacher - St Benedict's Primary)

**"Lots of interactive work with children around singing, actions and following a beat!"** (Teacher - Castleton Primary)

**"Everyone could be included. It was fun and energetic."** (Teacher - Croftfoot Primary)

**"Enthusiasm of tutors was fantastic and really ensured that the children engaged."** (Teacher - Ibrox Primary)

**28  
SCHOOLS  
8,172  
CHILDREN**

**"Lots of opportunity to sing, relax and have fun with their peers. An absolutely brilliant team who made the children engage within minutes."**

(Teacher - Croftfoot Primary)



## CELTIC CONNECTIONS PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

In a new partnership project with Celtic Connections, music tutors delivered a series of 6 traditional music workshops in every Primary 7 and P7/6 class in all primary and ASN primary schools, involving approximately **6,307 children**. The workshops focused on developing music skills and nurturing an awareness of Scottish traditional music to enhance the transition to secondary education, spanning the themes of traditional Scottish stepdance, Scots song, Gaelic song, bodhrán, tin whistle, pipe band drumming, chanter, and fiddle.

The [Celtic Connections Project Video](#) showcases the range of workshops on offer and the high levels of engagement from children.

**"I think it's really good that at a young age we are learning a new instrument. When we grow up, we can learn more – like join a band, get a career, get a successful life!" (P7 pupil)**

Feedback from tutors and teachers highlighted the positive impact of this project on children's engagement with enjoyable music making experiences, development of music skills and confidence in performing.

**"Countless pupils came up to me and said it was the highlight of their week and they now want to learn how to sing/play an instrument. They all improved drastically with their rhythm, tone and musical understanding." (Music Tutor)**

**"I noticed increased participation and engagement from children who sometimes don't get involved in a classroom setting...children with less confidence seemed to thrive in the music lessons." (Music Tutor)**

**"Children learned to play a simple tune on the whistle as well as listen to other Scottish music on various instruments." (Class Teacher)**

**"The workshops developed their knowledge of musical concepts such as rhythm and dynamics. They loved learning a little of the Gaelic language and about different musical instruments." (Class Teacher)**

**"The children absolutely loved the sessions. I think it has encouraged them to take music on in secondary school!" (Class Teacher)**

**"The children enjoyed learning to play the chanter and to see how it leads on to the bagpipes. They enjoyed listening to the tutor play and trying to pick out the songs they knew." (Class Teacher)**

Watch the project video at  
<https://youtu.be/9ogzQsgtV8M>  
 or scan the QR code on the right.



## Secondary

Secondary Curricular Networks have continued, with every teacher in Glasgow having the opportunity to join a MS Team and an Outlook group specifically for their subject. These groups facilitate the sharing of CLPL, SQA information, general queries and sharing of good practice. The networks meet formally twice per year, which offers opportunities for face to face discussions about teaching and learning, development of resources, practical CLPL workshops and to hear from visiting speakers about possible partnerships. The networks are led by volunteers in each subject area. Across the session, **9 network meetings** were held to support teachers in their delivery of Art & Design, Dance, Drama, Music and Photography. **150 teachers** attended these meetings, where the agenda was driven by Glasgow's priorities and network requests from last session. At a time when SQA are reducing subject specific support and we begin Education Scotland's curriculum reform, the networks are a vital source of information and experience sharing, particularly for single person departments and Early Career Teachers.

**"Very useful being surrounded by like minded practitioners to evaluate and improve our practice. Being a single person department this was invaluable."**

**"Extremely useful opportunities for discussion and collaboration. The moderation activity was valuable and opened up interesting dialogue about how specific SC should be. This was my first time attending and I felt that that there was a great amount of time given to talk and make connections."**

**"Collaborative working and planning as a group."**

**"Speaking about the moderation tool with colleagues. Learning about Glasgow's pedagogy...lots of ideas to go back to faculty with."**

Across the session **17 CLPL** sessions were offered for teachers by teachers, covering input requested at Network Meetings and more. These ranged from supporting the delivery of Design in Higher Drama, Art Therapy and Composition in Music. All sessions were delivered with the aim of developing teacher skills and confidence and providing useful exercises that could be taken back to the classroom.

**"Seeing candidate evidence and previous candidates actually there to talk through their ideas."**

**"This was a MASSIVELY helpful session. As a department we are presenting higher design for the first time this year and it has really helped us to know what we need to do to give our candidates the opportunity to be as successful as possible."**

**"This was very beneficial as I was able to observe and discuss the Higher marking scheme for the acting exam. Seeing a range of candidates was very helpful."**

**"Practical examples and advice with useful tips that can be used as warm up activities and with small nurture groups."**

**"Moderation and discussion of composition pieces. Range of examples was given and a nice atmosphere to share thoughts honestly."**

## Primary and Early Years

CREATE continued to communicate regularly with an established network of 'CREATE Champions' in every primary school to facilitate the sharing of CLPL, resources and professional arts partnership opportunities to enhance children's learning experiences in Expressive Arts.

The **Primary Curricular Leads Group** for Expressive Arts worked collaboratively to develop a teaching resource on the theme of 'Glorious Glasgow'.

CREATE first launched the '**Glorious Glasgow**' project in 2023, aiming to re-engage children and young people with cultural and arts opportunities that our city offers. Children and young people were asked about their own experience of Glasgow and their responses led to the development of resources to support learning and teaching in Expressive Arts and to promote the development of Creativity Skills through exploration of a common Glasgow theme. The resource pack contains series' of lessons focusing on Art & Design, Dance, Drama and Music, which provide ideas for practitioners to explore with learners across Early, First and Second Level, making links to the wider curriculum and creativity skills.

The new 'Glorious Glasgow' resource was launched at our second CREATE Champions Conference in April 2024, which was attended by **73 teachers**, an **87% increase** in number of participants on the previous year. This CLPL and networking event included practical workshops based on the 'Glorious Glasgow' resource and speakers from arts partners (Scottish Opera, Visible Fictions, Creative Hangouts and Glasgow Museums) highlighting opportunities for schools. **Almost all (97%)** teachers said they were very satisfied with the event. Teachers highlighted the effectiveness of the workshop leaders, appreciated the lessons and practical activities for all areas of expressive arts and valued the opportunity to talk to colleagues.

**"Very practical. Loved all the lesson ideas and staff were amazing at delivering."**

**"All the workshops provided ideas that are easily transferable to class."**

## CLPL

In 2023-24, CREATE delivered **51 CLPL sessions** to support expressive arts and creativity which were attended by a total of **632 primary teachers and early years practitioners**. Partnerships for CLPL delivery included Glasgow Museums and Starcatchers.

**7 Art & Design Twilights** were delivered in partnership with Glasgow Museums and attended by **53 teachers**.

**"Excellent course and lots to take away and incorporate in the classroom!"**

**"Examples of artwork and items from Glasgow Museums to set the skills/ techniques in context were excellent."**

In partnership with Starcatchers, a 2-day Creative Skills: Speech and Language training course was attended by **30 Early Years practitioners and EAL teachers**.

**"It has ignited a love of storytelling. Can't wait to take it back to my setting."**

**100 Teachers and Support for Learning Workers** attended CREATE Expressive Arts CLPL delivered at an Inservice Day for schools in the St Andrew's Learning Community.

**"Music and drama workshops were practical and I really like the amount of useful resources available."**

**"The practical input was fantastic and very enjoyable. I will definitely use this with my learners"**

CLPL to support Music & Phonological Awareness was delivered in partnership with Glasgow's Improvement Challenge and attended by **62 Early Years and Primary staff**.

**"Everything was useful but especially how to introduce musical instruments with songs as it can be quite daunting if that is not something you've led before."**

CREATE Expressive Arts Framework Twilight courses were attended by **28 teachers**.

**"I enjoyed learning how to use the framework and seeing extensive list of resources and websites to support teaching and learning."**



## FRAMEWORK FOR EXPRESSIVE ARTS

CREATE continue to develop Glasgow's Framework for Expressive Arts, providing support and guidance for teaching Art & Design, Dance, Drama and Music from Early to Fourth Level, including a clear progression of skills, lesson plans and links to online resources. Our **online framework** has been designed to be accessible to **all GCC staff** from their connected learning iPads, via [www.glasgowcreate.online](http://www.glasgowcreate.online), as a [Glow tile](#) and also linked from GO Glasgow.



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**CREATE**  
CREATIVITY AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

[/ Art & Design Framework / Early Level](#)

[Early Level Tracker](#)

**Art & Design at Early Level: Experiences & Outcomes**

Through art and design, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. They explore a wide range of two- and three-dimensional media and technologies through practical activities, and create, express, and communicate ideas. Their studies of the works of artists and designers enhance their enjoyment and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

EXA 0-02a	I have the freedom to discover and choose ways to create images and objects using a variety of materials.
EXA 0-04a	I can create a range of visual information through observing and recording from my experiences across the curriculum.
EXA 0-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design.
EXA 0-06a	Working on my own and with others, I use my curiosity and imagination to solve design problems.
EXA 0-07a	I can respond to the work of artists and designers by discussing my thoughts and feelings. I can give and accept constructive comment on my own and others' work.
EXA 0-01a	I have experienced the energy and excitement of presenting/performing for audiences and being part of the audience for other people's presentation/performances.

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**CREATE**  
CREATIVITY AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

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**Art & Design at First Level: Experiences & Outcomes**

Through art and design, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. They explore a wide range of two- and three-dimensional media and technologies through practical activities, and create, express, and communicate ideas. Their studies of the works of artists and designers enhance their enjoyment and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

EXA 1-02a	I have the opportunity to choose and explore a range of media and technologies to create images and objects, discovering their effects and suitability for specific tasks.
EXA 1-03a	I can create and present work using the visual elements of line, shape, form, colour, tone, pattern and texture.
EXA 1-04a	I can create a range of visual information through observing and recording from my experiences across the curriculum.
EXA 1-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design.
EXA 1-06a	I can use exploration and imagination to solve design problems related to real-life situations.
EXA 1-07a	I can respond to the work of artists and designers by discussing my thoughts and feelings. I can give and accept constructive comment on my own and others' work.

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**CREATE**  
CREATIVITY AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

[/ Art & Design Framework / Second Level](#)

[Second Level Tracker](#)

**Art & Design at Second Level: Experiences & Outcomes**

Through art and design, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. They explore a wide range of two- and three-dimensional media and technologies through practical activities, and create, express, and communicate ideas. Their studies of the works of artists and designers enhance their enjoyment and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

EXA 2-02a	I have the opportunity to choose and explore an extended range of media and technologies to create images and objects, comparing and combining them for specific tasks.
EXA 2-03a	I can create and present work that shows developing skill in using the visual elements and concepts.
EXA 2-04a	Through observing and recording from my experiences across the curriculum, I can create images and objects which show my awareness and recognition of detail.
EXA 2-05a	Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design.
EXA 2-06a	I can develop and communicate my ideas, demonstrating imagination and presenting at least one possible solution to a design problem.
EXA 2-07a	I can respond to the work of artists and designers by discussing my thoughts and feelings. I can give and accept constructive comment on my own and others' work.

## REFLECTION & NEXT STEPS

We are delighted to share our Standards and Qualities Report for session 2023-24 which highlights the variety of high quality, exciting initiatives and opportunities which our service provides, across all of Glasgow City Council Primary and Secondary Schools.

Since CREATE was established in 2016 our journey supporting all areas of Expressive Arts has been incredible. The commitment from our staff and young people is second to none, which helps make Glasgow CREATE the wonderful, forward thinking, creative and inspiring service it is today. The immense range of wonderful partnerships across many creative industries, theatres, museums, universities and colleges has allowed our children and young people to access wider opportunities and in many instances, support future career choices.

We are committed to the power of the Expressive Arts in developing our children and young people's health and well being, which is transferrable across all areas of the curriculum and helps to develop the young workforce. We are immensely proud of all our staff and young people and the strong, positive, lasting relationships are a real strength and are tangible across all aspects of our service.

## SERVICE PRIORITIES FOR 2024-25

Moving into 2024 – 2025, we have identified a number of priorities for improvement, some of which are as follows;

- All P1 children will engage in a year long input of high-quality music learning, delivered by YMI Tutors in partnership with class teachers. Children will develop their music skills which will have a positive impact on wider areas of development including language (phonological awareness), executive functions, and social skills.
- IMS will continue to provide high-quality instrumental music tuition in every secondary school and associated primary schools to support BGE and Senior Phase Music. There will be a focus on Primary 7 and improved transitions including a partnership with Celtic Connections delivering in every Primary 7 Class. In addition, CREATE will continue to provide high-quality opportunities for performances at school and city level in terms of ensembles, bands, orchestras, and choirs.

- CREATE SLT will support specific instrumental areas in terms of pedagogy, partnerships, performance opportunities, play days and masterclasses.
- CREATE will continue to support schools to use PEF funding to raise attainment and achievement through enhanced music provision, for example Baby Strings and Brass Academies.
- "Glorious Glasgow" teaching resource will be launched in 2025 for teachers to engage learners in creative learning experiences through Expressive Arts using an interdisciplinary approach.
- CREATE SLT will continue to improve communication through our website, social media, and digital platforms to support Expressive Arts & Creativity across all schools, young people and their families.
- Through a collaborative improvement approach, CREATE SLT will lead and support all EXA Curricular Networks to identify strengths and areas for improvement.

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Visit [glasgowcreate.online](http://glasgowcreate.online) and follow [@GlasgowCREATE](https://www.instagram.com/glasgowCREATE) across our social media channels to keep up to date with our latest news, events and opportunities for our children, young people and colleagues.



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