

Trainee Programme 2026-27

Calling all Wired4Music members and alumni!

Want access to training, mentoring, skills development and real-life, paid work opportunities with Sound Connections and Wired4Music?

Apply now for our Trainee Programme!

The opportunity:

Sound Connections is delighted to be opening the third round of our Trainee Programme, which provides Wired4Music members and/or alumni with access to training, mentoring, skills development and real-life paid work opportunities in music over the course of a 6 month programme (with potential to extend to future work).

We are now recruiting 1 x Trainee to join us from 2026-27. Keep reading to find out how to apply.

Tell me more...

Our Trainee will work closely with the Sound Connections team, spending time across each strand of our work - young people, practitioners and sector. On this programme you will:

- Learn the ropes of what we do
- Receive practical training and skills development
- Co-produce live events
- Co-design and deliver training sessions alongside the team
- Support and contribute to the day-to-day running of our programmes

Once the training is complete, the Trainee will become a fully-fledged junior member of Sound Connections' Associate Consultant pool.*

**Sound Connections Associate Consultants hold a range of different experience and expertise and have the opportunity to work with the team on a Freelance basis.*

Why are we doing this?

We want to create more opportunities for young people and emerging professionals in the Wired4Music community to contribute to, and gain experience within the different parts of our organisation. We also want to create space for different voices, backgrounds and experiences, and support the progression of young people into Sound Connections' work, and the wider music education and cultural sector.

Having previously recruited 2 x trainees per year, this year we have decided to recruit 1 trainee to give the opportunity for someone to gain more in-depth, extensive experience.

The details

As a Sound Connections Trainee, you will get:

1. **Training** in areas such as project management, facilitation skills, how to undertake research and evaluation, marketing and communications, finances and fundraising.
 2. **Mentoring** from a dedicated member of the team, plus we can connect you to other professionals who you want to gain some insight from.
 3. **Skills development opportunities** – as part of the programme you will have the opportunity to co-produce and co-deliver live events such as our monthly WiredUp music night, our annual Inclusive Practice In Action event (March 2027), and our training sessions around youth voice and participation.
 4. **Support** – during your time with us, we'll support you with your ambitions, whatever they may be – whether that's getting funding for your own work, applying for a job at another organisation, developing your skills in a specific area, or something else!
 5. **Paid** – we will provide you with a bursary of £8702.40 to cover 84 days of your time from August 2026 to 31 March 2027 and you need to be able to be in the office (Shoreditch) on Wednesdays. After this training period is complete, you will have the opportunity to be commissioned as a freelancer for various projects.
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Who is it for? (The criteria)...

We are looking for a dedicated and recently active member of the Wired4Music community who meets the following criteria:

1. You've taken part in a few Wired4Music opportunities, whether that's Generate, being an event producer, performing at WiredUp, attending drop-ins, 1:1s with one of the W4M team, etc.
2. You are at the upper-age limit of Wired4Music, so aged 24/25+ **or** you are W4M alumni up-to and including the age of 30.
3. You have the right to work in the UK.
4. You can commit to 84 days from August 2026 to 31 March 2027, so around 3 days per week including one day in the office at Rich Mix per week (usually Wednesdays). The rest of your time can be remote or in the office - we're flexible.
5. You are passionate, hard-working, with a can-do attitude and willingness to learn and develop yourself, alongside being committed to Wired4Music and Sound Connections' ethos. We are looking for potential and drive rather than qualifications and experience.

Sound like you? Read on to find out how to apply...

The recruitment process

We want to be supportive and inclusive in our recruitment process so if you have any questions, please contact Jasmine - jasminep@sound-connections.org.uk and we can arrange a quick chat – in your preferred communication style (email, phone, zoom etc.).

If you have any access requirements, and/or suggestions on how we can be more inclusive then please let us know.

1. Application

- a. We have a short list of questions that we'd like you to answer either in writing (500 words max) or as a short video or audio file (3 minutes max), alongside sharing your CV or online portfolio (if you have one) with us. More on this below.
- b. **Deadline for applications is Monday 22 June 2026 at 9am.**

2. Shortlisting and invitation to interview

- a. We will shortlist potential candidates the week beginning 22 June and be in touch with everyone by the end of the day on Friday 26 June whether we invite you to interview or not. If we don't invite you to interview, we will support you with your next steps.

3. Interviews

- a. Interviews will be held the week of 6 July in person at Rich Mix (or online if you prefer) and we will provide you with the interview questions in advance so that you can prepare. We will also let you know who will be interviewing you.

4. Decisions

- a. We will let all candidates know whether they have been successful or not by 5pm on Friday 10 July. Where we haven't been able to offer you a role, we will support you with next steps.

How to apply

To apply please email the following to jasminep@sound-connections.org.uk with your **name** and **'Sound Connections Trainee application'** in the subject header, by **9am on Monday 22 June 2026**:

1. **Your CV or online portfolio** (*if you don't have one, you can simply share some previous examples of your work experience*)
2. **Your response to the following questions** (*written/film/audio**):
 - **Tell us a little bit about yourself** (*e.g., your age, interests, what you do, where you are at in your career/goals*)
 - **How have you been involved in Wired4Music?** (*e.g., tell us about any programmes or activities and your experience with W4M up to now*)
 - **Why do you want to take part in the Trainee Programme?** (*e.g., What do you want to learn, why would it be good for you?*)

- **What skills and qualities will you bring to the role?** (e.g., Maybe you're great at comms, and really good at listening etc.)
- **Is there anything else you want to share?**

**You can share your responses either in written format (500 words maximum) or as film/audio (up to 3 minutes maximum – this can be shared as an unlisted YouTube link)*

Still want to get more of a feel for the programme and whether it's right for you?

- Read what our 2023-24 Trainees had to say about the programme and what they learned [here](#).

Here are some examples of projects completed by previous Trainees during the programme:

- **Neurodiversity In Music: Improving Access:** a documentary exploring best practices, barriers, and next steps in supporting Neurodivergent creatives in the Music Industry/Education sector. [Learn more >](#)
- **Pathways Podcast:** Conversations about progression and sustainable routes into the creative industries for young people. [Learn more >](#)

Got questions?

Get in touch with Jasmine – jasminep@sound-connections.org.uk who'll be overseeing the Trainee programme, for an informal chat - we'd love to hear from you. Good luck!