

# Annual Report 2020-21



**YORKSHIRE**  
**youth & music**  
*Music makes lives better!*

**We improve the lives of young people in a range of very challenging circumstances through music and arts based opportunities across Yorkshire**





## Our Organisation

Yorkshire Youth & Music is a community music and arts education company working across the whole of the Yorkshire region.

We create music-making opportunities that change the lives of children and young people in very challenging circumstances. We work with:

- young people in Youth Justice settings
- D/deaf/F children and young people
- children with special education needs
- children struggling with their mental health

We have expertise and a reputation for reaching the hardest to reach young people, working in partnership with schools, music services, community groups and other organisations who provide support and services to young people.

Our work has been funded by Youth Music, the Arts Council, Children in Need, a variety of local Trusts and Foundations and by kind donations from individuals.

YY&M follows young people's own musical aspirations and we employ the very best, multi-skilled music practitioners on our projects. We also offer training and support to adults who work with children and young people in a variety of settings and circumstances.

Music Makes Lives Better!

## Our Chair and Director



**Elizabeth Bavidge OBE**  
Chair of the Board

This has been the most extraordinary year for all of us, and particularly for young people. We began in lockdown, and as the year ended in March 2021, schools were beginning to return to face to face learning. We were able to continue and even expand some of our services, and music activities became a life-line for vulnerable young people when so much else was stopped. We did as much as we could to ensure the company, its staff and music leaders came through the year safely and were ready to start making music again as soon as we were able. The Trustees and I are pleased to report that whilst some of our music-making activities were suspended, some were adapted and others expanded.

The Trustees and staff worked hard to secure the future of the company and its work with vulnerable children and young people. We used HM Government's Covid related support schemes and grants to build our resilience and resources. First, we invested in digital equipment to ensure that young people can have access to the most up to date resources going forwards. Next, we reviewed and updated our business plan, to secure our future and to maximise our investment in young people's projects. We upgraded our website and social media work to increase our profile and attract more work. Finally we reviewed and updated all our organisational policies and systems to make them fit for new ways of working. We've built our strength and skills, and I am proud of the work our Trustees, staff and music leaders have done over the year.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A M Bavidge'.



**Gail Dudson**  
Director

Making music together is our primary activity, so in this year, which began and ended with so much uncertainty and difficult times, we faced a challenge. In some ways this made our work for the year very clear; to create as much stability as possible, and to encourage young people to be both creative and optimistic, because we believe that Music Makes Lives Better. Our Music Leaders rose to the challenge and found ways to engage and nurture young people's creativity, including making the most of our new digital resources.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gail Dudson'.





## Young People in Youth Justice Settings

We delivered more music-making opportunities to young people resident in Yorkshire's Secure Children's Homes than in any previous year. Music leaders visited the homes almost every week day, working alongside staff teams in all areas of Home life and activity. The range of creative activities young people choose included Music Production, DJ, singing, guitar, drum kit, balaphon and djembes, violin, performance poetry and rap, group work, songwriting and music/ performance video creation.

## D/deaf/F Young People & Instrumental Learning

We were conscious that Deaf young people were more likely to feel isolated during lockdown, as online resources and learning are often not accessible to them. With our Deaf music leaders, we came up with an idea to make a series of short music learning videos, fully signed in BSL by the music leaders, Sean and Eloise. Fourteen videos explored rhythm, pitch, singing and signing, instruments and percussions, and the videos were shared across our social media and directly to Deaf young people and their teachers and carers. They were used in schools and homes across Yorkshire.

## Music and Mental Health in Young People

Our visits to in-patient NHS residents were suspended due to Covid 19, though we maintained contact with the therapy and treatment teams throughout the pandemic. We were able to provide a set of videos exploring music, and our music leader Rebecca showed residents how to make interesting sounds and music using everyday objects, invent rhythms and use words to write short songs. The videos were shared with NHS teams to use with resident young people.



## The year in numbers...

We worked directly, face to face, with **98** young people during the year.

This is much lower than usual, though those young people had rich and extensive music making experiences, most week days whilst they were resident in our projects.

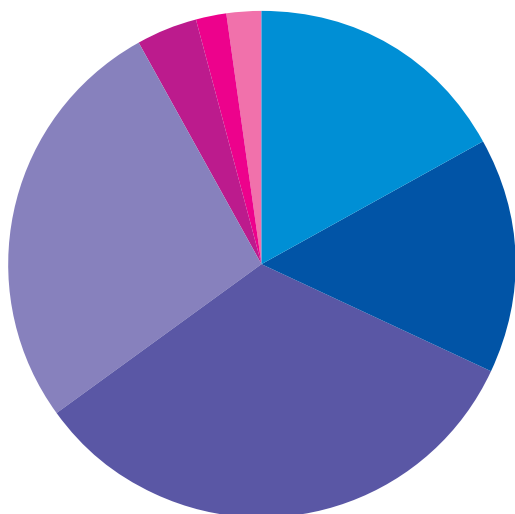
Our resources were viewed many times, including by groups, and we estimate that at least **300** young people used them at home, at school, or in their care placement, with the support of parents, guardians and staff.

We also had a collective total of **3,949** views this year on our YouTube channel.



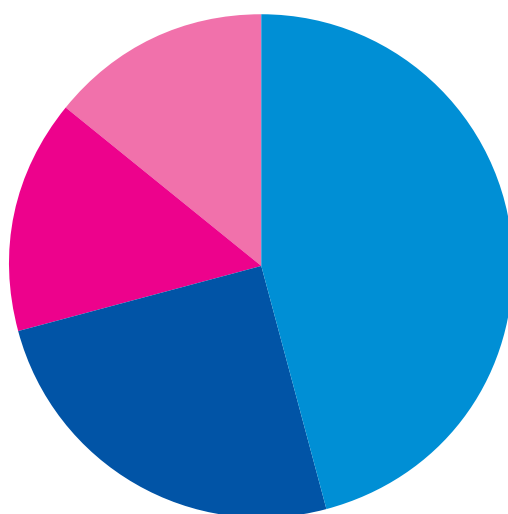
# Our Finances

## Income



- Covid related Government support, including furlough scheme 17%
- Youth Music 15%
- Partnership Income 33%
- Arts Council 27%
- Children in Need 4%
- Bromley Trust 2%
- Masonic Charitable Foundation 2%

## Expenditure



- Music Leaders and other freelance fees 46%
- Salaries and Pensions 25%
- Digital Upgrade and web-site development 15%
- Office and overhead costs 14%

Our total income this year was **£248,000**.

We also received in kind donations of time, venues, equipment and resources to a value of **£43,000**.

During the year our income was more than our expenditure; much of this was grant money for specific purposes which has 'rolled forward' into the next year to be spent.





## What our partners say...

I would just like to pass on that throughout the whole pandemic F (Music Leader) has been amazing and although we can't carryout face to face she has consistently communicated with me to still be able to deliver to the mums and babies. This has had such a positive impact on the mums and babies at this strange time.

She has started sending us some Makaton signs therefore now we as a team are going to do some work around Makaton to deliver in sessions. We just can't wait for face to face .... hopefully soon.

*Staff Member at HMP Askham Grange*

*F is a Music Leader on 'Little Song Stars', our project working with Mums and their babies in secure accommodation in West Yorkshire*





# The difference we make

## Case Study 1

B was resident at a Secure Children's Home for most of the year, for her own welfare. In Music sessions she developed into a very competent musician, producer and performer, playing bass, guitar keys and singing. At the start of the year she was nervous and timid with others, but by the end of the year she started to show leadership in group sessions, confidently advising others on what they could do to improve a performance. This was a significant development for her.

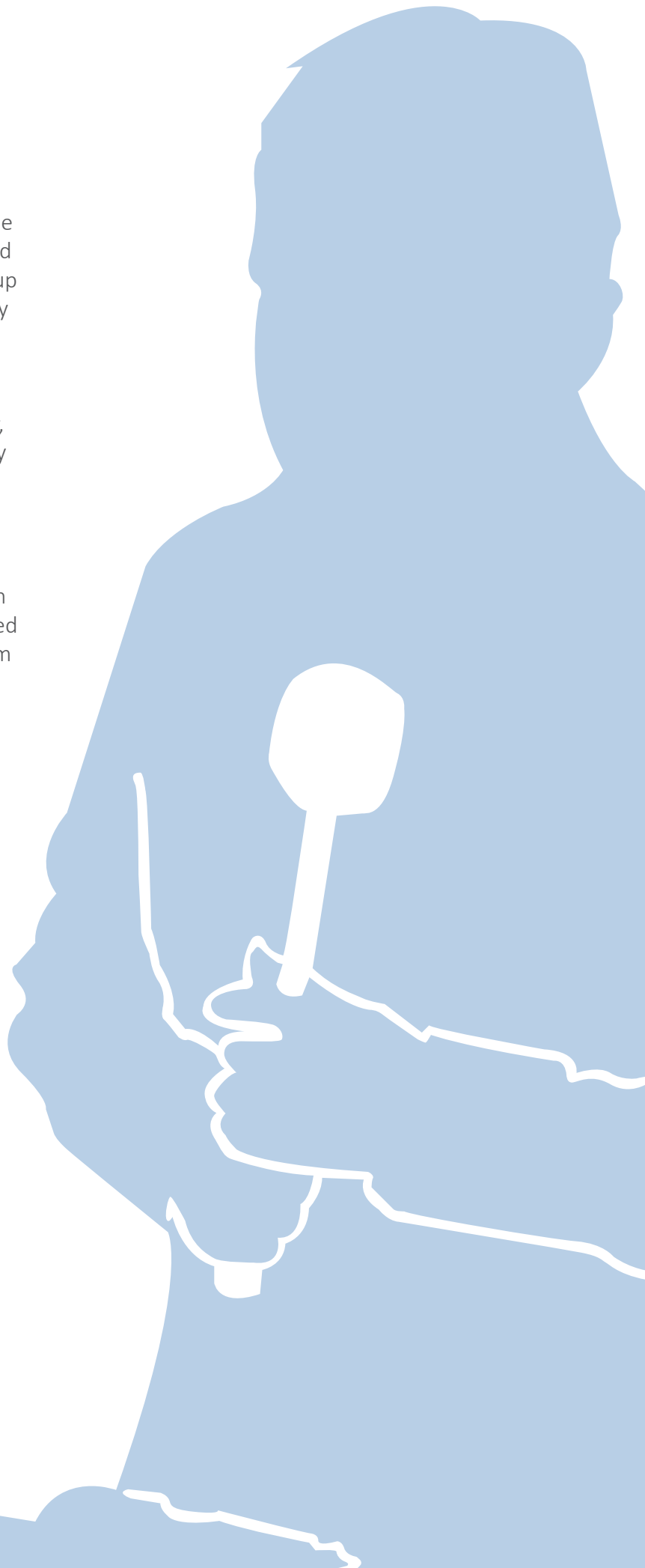
She developed into a very enthusiastic performer, and always wanted to have an opportunity to play to staff and other young people at Assemblies on Friday afternoons.

Towards the end of the year she started to learn play the violin, and now has a weekly violin lesson with another resident who also plays. They learned traditional songs together and planned to perform at the summer Carnival.

## Case Study 2

We were unable to visit the Mother and Baby Units in Yorkshire's Women's Prisons, and internet live links are not permitted. We instead sent resources each week; a work sheet with examples, selfie-style videos made by our music leader, and a phone call 'rehearsal' with the Unit Manager. Staff in the units used the resources almost daily and built music into routines for the small number of Mothers and Babies who remained in residence during lockdown.

These resources are also being shared online, so that a wider community of other mums and babies can access the resources, via YouTube.





## Looking forward...

For 2022-23, we will continue to adapt our work to the needs of Covid-19 and will deliver as much face to face and remote or online work as we can. We'll be developing our digital skills to make these services the best they can be.

We'll also be concentrating on the well-being of our staff and practitioners, to make us and them as resilient as we can, looking forward to a time when we can once again meet all our young people face to face.

## Our Partners

### Leeds City Council

Adel Beck Secure Children's Home

### Sheffield City Council

Aldine House Secure Children's Home

### Becton Young People's Centre

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust

### Action for Children

HMP New Hall

Mother and Baby Unit

### Barnardos

HMP Askham Grange

Mother and Baby Unit

## Our Team

Gail Dudson

Becky Pugh

Rebeka Haigh

Jackie Breeze-Settle

**Director**

**Deputy Director**

**Communications**

**Company Manager**

### Our Trustees

Elizabeth Bavidge OBE

Sam Dunkley

Tricia Ellis

Hannah Jones

Janette Randerson

**Chair**

**Treasurer**

### Our Practitioners

Jessica Armstrong

Dan Bernard

Chris Campbell

Ali Cummings

Sean Chandler

Rebecca Denniff

Fiona Dowson

Eloise Garland

Chris Morris

Paulette Morris



**With thanks to our Funders and Supporters**

Youth Music  
Arts Council England  
BBC Children in Need  
The Bromley Trust  
The Masonic Charitable Foundation

All of our fantastic individual donors

**Yorkshire Youth and Music Ltd**

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