In Harmony Liverpool Research Network
Music Education & Impact

‘The achievement is now something they are all proud of. And that will pass on – to other people and to other generations. In time it will change this place. I am so proud of her.’ Parent.

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- Aims of In Harmony Liverpool
- Typical week of music making
- Outcomes to date
- Questions for discussion

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About In Harmony

- To transform the lives of children and families in West Everton through orchestral based intensive and immersive music making
- Inspired by El Sistema, In Harmony is social action through the orchestra and the pursuit of music excellence
- Partnership programme led by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic with local agencies and community organisations

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Vision & Outcomes

- Healthier, higher achieving West Everton, inspired to celebrate the community through music
  - Improved educational achievement and attendance at Faith Primary School
  - Improved child self-esteem, confidence and wellbeing
  - Improved family and community wellbeing
  - Community that feels ‘music is a normal part of life’
  - Sustained programme – generational change

  Longitudinal evaluation programme since 2009 by Susanne Burns and Paul Bewick – referred to throughout

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‘Typical’-ish week in the life of...

- 193 children currently (283 since 2009)
- Tots in Harmony 0-3s and parents/carers
- Nursery and Reception: 2 music making sessions plus daily singing
- Faith School Year 1: Begin twice weekly group string instrumental lessons, musicianship and orchestra
- Faith School Year 2: As per year 1 plus optional after school chamber sessions
- Faith School Year 3: As per year 2 plus join West Everton Children’s Orchestra

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- Faith School Years 4-6: Twice weekly group string lessons, West Everton Children's Orchestra, composition, daily singing plus optional after school programme: brass ensemble, orchestral percussion, string ensembles, woodwind (from Sep 2013)
- In Faith School: 4.5 hours of curriculum time given to music with some children participating up to 10 hours per week

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- Primary aged children (excluding Faith): Offered minimum twice weekly instrument lessons, Children's Orchestra rehearsal and singing – plus optional chamber groups, brass, percussion and woodwind (from Sep 2013)
- Any West Everton child aged 7 and above can also join Liverpool Philharmonic Children's Choirs rehearsing Monday evenings

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West Everton Super Strings

- Young people moving on to secondary school (from summer term Year 6 via managed process) can continue In Harmony after school
- Instrument lessons, sectionals and West Everton Super Strings ensemble rehearsals
- Optional brass and percussion
- Some Year 5s invited to audition

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Performances

- Regular performances for all groups
- For parents, public and for peers (particularly at younger age range)
- Includes community based performances
- High profile at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, St George's Hall Concert Room, Southbank, Derry UK City of Culture
- Alongside RLPO at BBC Proms September 2013
- 100% children achieved at least 3 performances in 2012/13
- 75% children achieved at least 5 (and mostly 7) performances in 2012/13
- 42% of children have received In Harmony @ Home

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Outcomes - Children

- Improved academic achievement in Faith School population despite reduction in curriculum time available to core subjects
- Increased attendance at school from 91% to 94% and increased enjoyment of school
- Improved wellbeing – self-esteem, confidence, focus, aspiration, cooperation and resilience
- Reported sense of belonging, pride and teamwork
- Improved dedication and commitment
- 94% achieving or exceeding musical expectations
- *'Music has given our children respect for themselves, respect for each other and respect for education.'* Parent to Ofsted

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Outcomes

- Overall school improvement – In Harmony referenced in Ofsted report 2010
- Outstanding quality of music teaching and learning (Ofsted HMI Music, 2011)
- ‘Learning Community’ – adults/children learning together, change in relationships – two way learning
- Motivation and morale
- Parental engagement with school
- Maturing excellent cross-team working

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Outcomes

- Hope, Pride and Aspiration in community
- Stronger families and parental engagement in child's learning
- Connected community – ownership of In Harmony, trust in lead partner, engagement at events
- Change in Liverpool Philharmonic – central to our work and future plans, positive changes for musicians, public value of orchestra/organisation

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Questions

- Orchestra – the community of musicians
- Impact on Attainment: Music, Intensity and Immersion – what is driving the change?
- School change and pedagogy – transformational learning
- In Harmony curriculum and approach – transferring learning to/from music education

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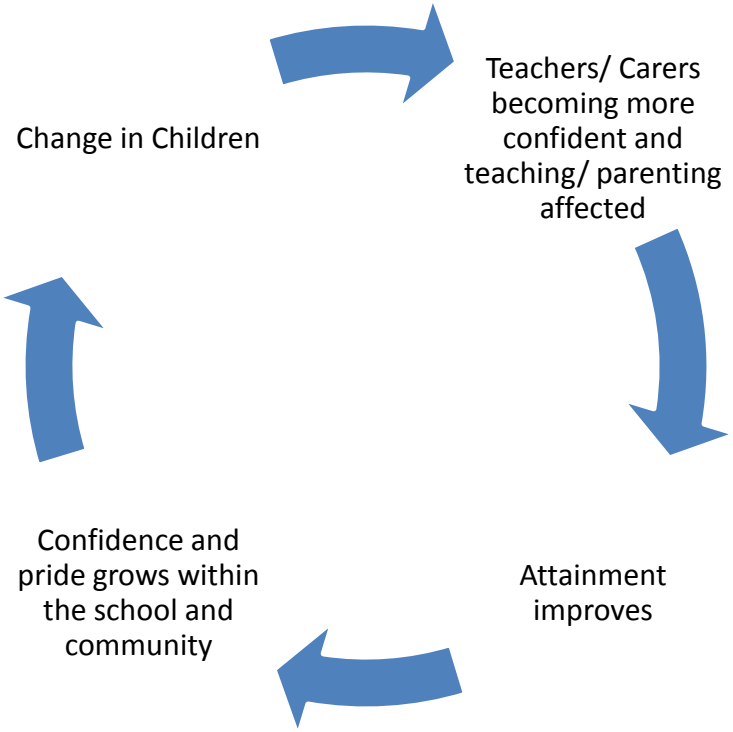
Virtuous Cycle of Change



Ref: Bewick and Burns 2011

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Questions

- Future musicians – employer needs/training the future workforce
- Involvement of music organisation – attitude/approach to leadership & institutional impact on community/outcomes/delivery/opportunity and feelings of value/trust
- Informing public value debate, organisational development and sustainability

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