



Researching Practice and Teach Meet Grant 2021

Current grants available: 3 x £200

Purpose of the Grant

The MERYC England Grants are intended to support and encourage individuals with an active professional profile in early childhood music education in England to carry out a small-scale *Researching Practice Initiative* that will support them in developing their practice. Please see the follow-on document for additional information.

Eligibility

Applications are open to those who have an active and current professional profile in early childhood music education in England.

Criteria

Applications can only be accepted from those who have an active and current professional profile in early childhood music education in England. Applications will be evaluated according to criteria based on the aims and principles of MERYC England. The contribution of the proposed initiative to an applicant's continuing professional development will be taken into account. In the event of multiple applicants, the status of the applicant (student, unwaged, freelance/employed) and their access to sources of income *may* be taken into account by the MERYC England Awards Panel.

Applying

An application form is available at the end of this document.

Further information

In any further information is required, please contact the current Chair of Trustees, Dr Alison Street, email: info@merycengland.co.uk

The MERYC England Researching-Practice and Teach Meet Grant

Additional Information

Please read this information carefully before applying.

In keeping with its charitable aims, MERYC England invites proposals from individuals (not organisations) for small-scale initiatives that will aim to foster better practice in early childhood music through research and reflection. The charitable aims of MERYC England are set out on its website www.merycengland.co.uk

Grant Value: 3 x £200

There are no fixed guidelines for the form your initiative might take. We offer the following suggestions as guidance only:

- a short series of sessions offered free-of-charge to explore and develop a pedagogical approach to practice (e.g. exploring approaches that use digital technology; an approach to movement-based practice; new ways of using vocal work with mothers and toddlers)
- exploration of content and pedagogical approaches for an early childhood setting that serves an ethnically diverse population of children and families
- a series of attendances at a setting in order to explore pedagogical approaches to music play
- the development of a research-informed training session/sharing practice session which is then offered free-of-charge to practitioners in your area
- a repertoire search and rehearsal to create a small performance-led occasion followed by focus-group discussion with participating families

Please provide a short outline of your Researching Practice or Teach Meet proposal, making it clear how a research process (e.g. observations and documentation, action research, reflective practice, focus group discussions) will be embedded in your initiative.

Your proposed Researching Practice or Teach Meet should connect and form part of your own professional development. Please include a short CV with your application and/or a short statement explaining how the initiative will contribute to your continuing professional development (CPD).

We recommend that you read the principles of MERYC England carefully (stated on the website) in order to ensure that your proposed idea conforms to these principles. These principles will contribute to our decision-making criteria.

The grant is intended to pay for your time and perhaps low-cost sundries such as the hire of a room. Any practical work which forms part of your initiative should be offered free-of-charge to the nursery, children or families. The grant cannot fund the purchase of resources: the only exception might be if a resource is essential to your idea. Please give costings in your application.

Grant recipients will be expected to ensure that their research-practice/teach meet initiative conforms to ethical procedures for research. MERYC Trustees will ensure that, if required, grant recipients receive advice concerning ethics and consent procedures and will need to vet these before any practical work begins.

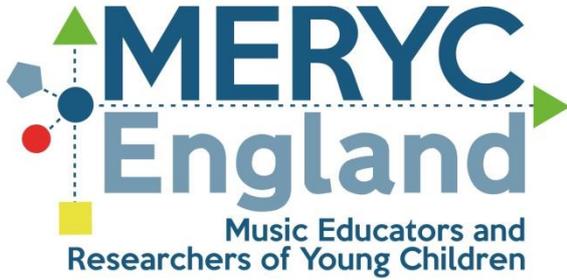
Recipients of a grant will be expected to provide a short final report (a written report, or via alternative methods of reporting such as video clip, annotated photos) and will be encouraged to present their Researching Practice Initiative at the next MERYC England one-day conference (details to follow)

The applications will be reviewed by the MERYC England trustees. Any decision will be final.

CREC, St Thomas's Children Centre, Bell Barn Rd, Birmingham, B15 2AF

The deadline for applications – 31st July 2021

Research-practice/teach meet initiatives must be completed by – 31st December 2021.



The MERYC England Researching-Practice Grant Application form

Applicants are reminded to read the purpose, eligibility and criteria for the awards in advance of submitting this form. Applicants should also attach a CV to their application.

Name:

Date of Birth:

Qualifications:

Current role: (including employment status)

Proposal:

(Please describe your researching-practice initiative stating clearly how a research process will be embedded in your practical activity. Please explain how this will enable you to develop an aspect of your practice and how this will contribute to advancing music education practice that is in children's own best interests.)

Commitment:

Successful applicants will be expected to complete their initiative by (insert date). They will also be asked to write a brief report that can be published on the MERYC England website and strongly encouraged to present their work at the forthcoming one-day MERYC England conference.

I confirm that the information I provide above is correct. I confirm that I am not receiving funding for the initiative I propose from any other source. I understand that the applications will be assessed by the MERYC trustees according to criteria as outlined in the accompanying document. I understand that the decision of the trustees will be final.

Signed

Date

Please return this application form to: Dr Alison Street, Email: info@merycengland.co.uk

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