



8th Meeting of the
Music Educators and Researchers of Young
Children England

**Early Childhood Music Education
in the 21st Century:
Exploring possibilities in a changing world**

**Saturday 9th November, 2024
09.00 - 16.30**

Newcastle University
International Centre for Music Studies
Armstrong Building
Newcastle University
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE1 7RU

Call for Papers

Call published on Friday 26 Jan 2024
Submission deadline for abstract:
Sunday 10th March 23.00 GMT, 2024

This eighth conference follows previous biennial meetings, beginning in 2012 meetings have been hosted by universities and/or music education organisations from across England. The 2024 in-person meeting will be hosted by Newcastle University.

MERYC England is a charity and is affiliated to EuNet MERYC that hosts a European conference biennially. MERYC England normally hosts its meetings on the alternate biennial years.

This one-day conference focuses on what we are learning from young children under five years old, their families and caregivers about music, and music education in today's world. Our focus is music in young children's lives and the generation of discussion of effective approaches for listening and making music with children to support and mentor musicality in practice.

You will have the opportunity to reflect on how research and practice influences five key questions:

- What are the ways that young children's music can be seen, heard and valued?
- What musical environments help us listen with young children?
- Musical worlds - what kinds of musical partners are there?
- What are the implications for practice?
- What do I need to develop my practice?

We encourage interactive participation through discussion, practical activities, dissemination of research and innovative practice relating to the field of music in early childhood (0-5 years), in education (both inside and outside school), informal learning contexts and everyday life.

We welcome abstracts from participants from the UK and Europe. These will be reviewed anonymously.

Chair of MERYC England
Julia Partington

Invited Keynote Speaker

Jessica Pitt

Panel of Reviewers

- Margareta Burrell
- Carol Bowden
- Barbara Cavanagh
- Kate Comberti
- Steve Grocott
- Ali Harmer
- Ryan Humphrey
- Julia Partington
- Jane Parker
- Vanessa Stansall
- Susan Young

Submissions Procedure

Abstracts (350 words) should be structured according to these outlines:

Spoken Papers

20 mins presentation, plus 10 mins discussion

For empirical papers the headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusions

For theoretical/review papers, the headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Main Contribution
4. Implications

For a spoken practice paper, the headings should include:

1. Theoretical background and content
2. Age and characteristics of participants

3. Aims of the project
4. Method or pedagogical approach
5. The activities
6. The outcomes
7. Conclusions and implications for future practice

Posters

Depending on the subject and/or content, it may be more appropriate to submit an abstract as a poster for visual presentation rather than a 20-minute spoken presentation. In general, the sorts of papers, which are most effective as posters, are those in which the major conclusions become evident from the thoughtful examination of charts, graphs and photos rather than those, which require the audience to follow a sustained chain of verbal argumentation. The poster paper is able to "stand alone", that is, to be understandable even if the author is not present.

For posters the abstract headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusions

Workshop - Practice demonstration

45 minutes plus 10 mins discussion

- Background
- Aims
- Interactive participation (an idea of what delegates will experience through the workshop/demonstration)
- Implications
- Specific value and meaning (indicate in four keywords the workshop's purpose, intended focus and its value for participants)

Submitting your abstract

Please indicate whether your abstract is for a.) spoken empirical/theoretical paper b.) spoken practice paper or c.) poster, d.) workshop presentation.

Your abstract submission includes the following information:

Title

Author

Affiliation (if relevant)

Author's contact email

Abstract (350 words)

Add three keywords in your submission

submit to: info@merycengland.co.uk

Deadline for submissions: Sunday 10th March 2024, 23.00 GMT

Submissions will be blind-reviewed by members of the MERYC2024 Panel of Reviewers.

Book of Abstracts

There will be no proceedings produced of the day and a full paper will not be required. Abstracts will be compiled and be made available on the day.

Deadline information

March 10 th 2024	Abstract Submission
May 24 th 2024	Notification of abstract acceptance
May 27 th 2024	Early-bird registration opens

Conference Registration

The registration fee includes access to all sessions, coffee breaks and meals. For each presentation at least one author should be registered at the Conference before 15th September 2024 in order for the abstract to be included in the Abstract book, and the presentation to be scheduled in the Conference timetable.

Registration Fees

Before 15th September 2024	£50
After 15th September 2024	£65
On the day registration 2024	£75