



The Poplar Adolescent Unit  
Therapeutic Education Department

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## MUSIC POLICY

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| Accepted by the Management Committee: | June 2022 |
| Review Date                           | June 2026 |

## **Aims and objectives**

Music plays an important role in both the educational and therapeutic development of the young people at Poplar Adolescent Unit. Music can provide young people with a way of expressing themselves, whilst also providing them with skills and hobbies that they can build on in the future. We aim to provide opportunities for all our young people to create, play, perform and enjoy music.

The objectives of music sessions at Poplar are to enable our young people to:

- Know how music is made through a variety of instruments; including string, keys, percussion as well as electronically made music
- Develop personal confidence by trying a new skill, or further developing an existing one
- Develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music

## **Teaching and learning style**

At Poplar Adolescent Unit we encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all young people. Students have the opportunity take part in a range of musical activities such as:

- Playing a range of musical instruments including guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, keyboards, drums and a range of other percussion instruments.
- Learn how to tune an instrument such as guitar.
- Learn how to restring an instrument.
- Record a song using Garageband.
- Use microphones to practice and record singing/rapping.
- Take part in both individual and group sessions of music.

## **Access to music**

On admission, each young person is assessed for their educational needs, including any interests in creative subjects, with music being a key component of this.

Music sessions are offered on a regular basis. These sessions involve small group or individual sessions with a teacher.

Students who have identified an interest in music can also be offered regular opportunities to access music activities throughout the education programme. This can be organised with each young person's key teacher.

## **Assessment**

The music programme is aimed to improve young people's engagement and motivation. Most assessment will be formative assessment made by observations by the music lead teacher. Alongside the therapeutic elements of the music sessions, students will also have the opportunity to complete a small music project for ASDAN accreditation, or for the Trinity Arts Award. This work will be assessed by the music lead teacher and then moderated.

For young people who are studying level 2/3 music courses, contact will be made with their home school to identify their specific curriculum requirements.

## **Resources**

The Poplar Adolescent Unit has a wide range of musical resources that the young people can use and learn with during their time with the unit. We have a range of musical instruments from guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, electronic drum kit, keyboard and many other percussion instruments. We also have microphones and a selection of amplifiers, as well as some effects pedals. In terms of recording music, we have a home recording studio, alongside an Apple Macbook with access to Garageband. There is also a IMAC computer which also has access to Garageband.