Soundabout is looking for a freelance music practitioner to deliver inclusive and accessible music-making sessions in Wolverhampton

September 2026

Soundabout is an award-winning, UK-based charity that believes that everyone should be able to access, experience, and enjoy music. For 30-years, the charity has been using the universal language of music, sound, and silence, to create meaningful opportunities for Learning Disabled people of all ages, particularly those with complex support needs, to communicate, connect, and thrive.

Established in 1997, each year Soundabout supports around 2,250 Learning Disabled people alongside their families and supporters, as well as around 360 professionals, through delivering around 1,250 online and in-person sound and music-based sessions across the UK.

Our Values are:

Kind: We are kind, friendly, and supportive to everyone.
Person-Centred: We celebrate each person; creating sound and music together.
Inclusive: we work hard to create welcoming and accessible spaces.
Aspirational: We use our energy to learn and aim for the best for everyone, while being curious, fun, and creative.

For more information, please go to: www.soundabout.org.uk

The Opportunity:

We have an opportunity for a freelance music practitioner to join our team and deliver weekly music making sessions in Wolverhampton on a Wednesday evening.

We are looking for someone with suitable skills and experience, specifically of delivering music and sound exploration alongside Learning Disabled children and young people. This will include the use of multi-sensory music making, using accessible music making techniques and ideas, having a person-centred approach.

We will be working with different groups of children and young people that includes:

- Under 11s sessions with children with moderate learning disabilities
- Younger children's sessions for Autistic and/or Learning Disabled primary aged children
- Sessions for Learning Disabled children and young people with complex support needs
- 'Band' sessions for 11-18 year olds with Autism, social anxiety, and/or learning disabilities.

The sessions are running term time only, and this is a freelance opportunity and will be paid at the Standard Soundabout freelance rates (in line with the Musician's Union). You will be working alongside a second Soundabout Practitioner.

Start date: As soon as possible to start in October if possible. We will be recruiting on a rolling basis and closing this opportunity as soon as we find a suitable person so please get an early application sent in.

End date: Session dates will be provided on booking. The project will last the 2026/27 school year.

Time of sessions: We are running two music making sessions a week, you will need to be free from 5pm to 7:45pm on a Wednesday across the academic year.

Who are we looking for:

Your experience, how you align with Soundabout's values, and your enthusiasm is far more important than any specific qualifications related to this work. Please consider the following points when you fill out the application form.

Your values and practice:

- Hold a person-centred approach to your delivery, working with what people are bringing to the room as your starting point.
- Reflective practice; taking the time to reflect on the delivery with your co-facilitator to feed into planning and observational recording.
- Supportive and friendly co-facilitator, who can engage with all people in the room including participants, parents and carers, and co-facilitators.
- Be able to facilitate a session where there is enough time and space for participants to express themselves, and to celebrate their contributions.
- Passionate about inclusive music making and facilitating creative spaces for all.

Your musical and communication skill set:

- Experience of working and/or volunteering musically alongside a wide range of Learning-Disabled people, including people with more complex support needs.
- Musical skill (formal or informal) and the ability to be playful with sound makers and instruments in a small group context. Examples of typical musical facilitation required in these sessions:
    - Supporting young musicians in a band
    - Improvisation
    - Holding the group through a harmony instrument e.g. guitar, ukulele, keyboard / piano etc.
    - Incorporating use of technology e.g. iPads and other assistive technology etc.
    - Tuning in to participants and responding musically e.g. call and response, intensive interaction
- A positive, playful, and engaging style of delivery.
- Being observant and responsive in the moment and adapting your delivery and communication style accordingly e.g. using plain English, simple signs, symbols etc.

Your practical requirements:

- Ability to work on a freelance, self-employed basis.
- Both Public Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance must be in place prior to the start of the work.
- Engage with our safer recruitment processes, including:
    - Completing self-disclosure form
    - Providing two professional references
    - ID checks
    - Completing an enhanced DBS check (children with barred list and adults)
    - Evidence of appropriate Safeguarding training or willingness to complete through Soundabout
- Commitment to ongoing safeguarding best practice.
- Commitment to upholding Soundabout values.
- You must provide evidence of Right to Work in the UK.
- Means of travel to and from Wolverhampton for the delivery (reasonable travel expenses will be paid).
- Ability to work with Microsoft Forms to submit evaluation reports each week.
- Access to musical equipment (in good condition and PAT tested) for delivery and IT access for weekly reporting.

Soundabout is committed to building a diverse and inclusive freelance team. We particularly welcome expressions of interest from people who are currently underrepresented in our freelance workforce, including people from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic backgrounds, Disabled people, LGBTQIA+ people, and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Soundabout is a Disability Confident Employer. We guarantee an interview to Disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for this freelance opportunity. We are committed to making our recruitment process accessible, and we are happy to discuss reasonable adjustments that would support you through the application or interview process.

Payment details:

This delivery will be paid at £176 per week to cover up to 4 hours of delivery and evaluation time, plus one hour of planning and prep time at £21.75/hour and travel costs.

Closing Date:

We will keep this opportunity open until we find a suitable person to fill the role, we will interview on a rolling basis so please contact us as soon as possible to submit your interest. We are opening the recruitment from Friday 25th September 2026.

How to submit your interest:

Please send the following documents to *recruitment@soundabout.org.uk*

- A completed application form (required)
- A self-disclosure form (if needed)

Please note:

- We will update the website as soon as we have recruited to close applications.
- We will respond to all applications to let you know if you have been invited to an interview.
- We will send out interview questions and tasks before the interview to give you time to prepare.

Contact us:

If you have any questions or need this information in a different format please contact:

- *recruitment@soundabout.org.uk*
- 01235 797474