**CHILDREN’S AND JOINT COMMISSIONING SERVICES**

**THE PRESTON SIMPSON AND STERNDALE YOUNG MUSICIANS TRUST**

**NOTES OF GUIDANCE**





The purpose of this guidance is to provide you with information about the Preston Simpson and Sterndale Young Musicians Trust. It includes details of how you qualify for help, the purpose of the award and how to apply for assistance. The application form is available on-line at [www.hartlepool.gov.uk/youngmusicianstrust](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/youngmusicianstrust). Once completed, please return the form and your two references to the address shown on the bottom of the application form by **10 January 2025 – 12 noon.**

* ***Who gets help from the Young Musicians Trust?***

The Trust makes awards to young people to enable them to study music at any educational establishment providing courses in musical education. It is designed to assist those students who have already achieved a good standard in their musical studies and who may wish to make use of their musical ability in their future careers.

* ***How do I qualify for assistance?***

To qualify for assistance applicants must:

* be aged between 14 and 25 years on 31 July in the year the award is made; and
* be born in the Borough of Hartlepool or having been born elsewhere, have or have had a parent who has lived in the Borough of Hartlepool for not less than five years.

In addition to the above, candidates should be able to show a keen interest and concern for music and have an above average musical talent which will be indicated by:

* A minimum standard of Grade V in the Associated Board Examination or equivalent qualification from Trinity College London;
* Membership of bands and orchestras; or
* Evidence of participation in musical concerts; or
* A genuine intention of pursuing a musical career (at this stage a commitment to GCSE Music).
* ***How do I apply for help from the Young Musicians Trust?***

If you think that you may be eligible for assistance you will need to complete the application form and return it by the closing date of **10 January 2025 – 12 noon.**

Candidates must supply the name, address and e-mail address of two referees and written references from them. Your two referees should testify to your general education and character and also to your musical education and capabilities. If you are studying Music one referee must be your current Music Teacher or Head of Music.

* **Applications will only be considered if they include two referees.**
* **Applications submitted without written references will not be considered.**
* **References from relatives will not be considered.**
* **Hand written applications will not be accepted**
* ***If I am successful how will I be paid?***

If your application is successful you will receive your award by cheque made payable to you and addressed to your home. There will be a presentation event when the cheque and a certificate will be presented to you.

*All successful candidates will be required to attend the presentation event to receive their awards. Failure to do so will result in the award being withdrawn.*

* ***Is there a closing date?***

The closing date for the current academic year is **10 January 2025 – 12 noon.**

* ***Will there be an audition?***
* Candidates will be required to attend an audition.
* Candidates will be required to perform **two contrasting** pieces of music using their chosen instrument or instruments.
* If a backing tape or accompanist is needed for your audition it will be your responsibility to organise this.
* Copies of the scores of your chosen music will be required for the adjudicators at your audition.
* Auditions will be held at High Tunstall College of Science, Hartlepool on **28 February and 1 March 2025.**
* ***If I am successful in obtaining an award, will I have to take part in any publicity?***

Successful applicants will be required to participate in a concert that will be held in the Town Hall on **28 June 2025.**You will be required to supply information about yourself (template will be provided) for the concert programme as well as a photograph.

* ***How do I obtain further help and advice?***

If you need further help or advice or help in completing your application form please contact Judith Oliver, Children’s and Joint Commissioning Services on 01429 523914, or e-mail [judith.oliver@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:judith.oliver@hartlepool.gov.uk) who will be happy to help you.

Completed applications to be submitted to [PSST@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:PSST@hartlepool.gov.uk)