



Musical Connections

Nurturing Musical
Cultures in Autism
Resource Bases

Friday 7th November
1pm - 4pm
The MAC
Belfast (BT1 2NJ)

Join us for a session to
explore music education
in Specialist Provision in
Mainstream Schools
(SPiMS).



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ATTENDANCE

We want every autistic child and young person to access creative, child-centred music education. With AHRC funding, Live Music Now and the University of South Wales are building an evidence-informed picture of music learning in Specialist Provision (Autism Resource Bases) across the UK.

What it's for?

- Share what's working & where the gaps are.
- Hear perspectives from autistic professionals, carers and learners.
- Identify barriers (practical, cultural, structural) and realistic solutions.
- Prioritise next steps for research & practice.
- Grow a network for ongoing exchange & support in Northern Ireland.

What can you expect?

- Overview of research aims & timeline.
- Hear from **Dr Beth Pickard** (University of South Wales), **Alex Lupo** (Autistic Musician and Creative Lead, Live Music Now), **Gary Day** (NI Project Lead), and the Education Authority Specialist Provision Team.
- An open call to contribute insights, case studies and lived experience to the research.

Why now?

A Youth Music-supported pilot project over the past 3 years has shown benefits for autistic pupils' social, emotional and academic development—and raised important questions we want to explore together.

Your expertise and networks are essential to shaping practical, sustainable change & ensuring the research outcomes are relevant in Northern Ireland.



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Let us know of any access requirements and we'll readily accommodate them.