



"This is going to make a real difference to numerous pupils across Wiltshire that attend the various Silverwood School campuses. In September I am running a song-writing programme with pupils, and this equipment will act as my portable recording studio. Through therapeutic song writing, the songs are being created to help pupils express themselves and to help unify this newly formed school."

- Will Lawton, Music Therapist and Singer-Songwriter

## THE RHYTHM PRACTICE CASE STUDY

The Rhythm Practice is based in a bright and airy, private, upstairs room at The Pound Arts Centre in Corsham.

Their newest project - Silverwood Creates Music has been supported by Wiltshire Digital Drive following the successful application for the loan of a MacBook.

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Silverwood Creates Music is a project delivered by The Rhythm Practice, lasting for 1 year.

Delivered over 6 terms, Will Lawton (Music Therapist & Singer Songwriter) will visit 3 campuses across Wiltshire to deliver group songwriting sessions to students with special educational needs that cannot be met in mainstream provision.

### THE VISION OF THE PROJECT

To offer expressive and creative music and songwriting opportunities to pupils and staff across the school.

### APPLICATION SNAPSHOT

In order to work across various campuses with numerous groups of pupils I required a portable recording studio to allow me to capture, write and record music and videos. The existing iPad is too limiting - a MacBook would allow me to record, edit and store audio files using software called Logic Pro X whilst on the move.

### CHALLENGES

- Lack of available, portable, equipment could impact the delivery of the project.
- Lack of disposable funds meant there may have been a delay in obtaining a suitable device.
- The quality of work that will be created by students would be impacted and reduced.



## SOLUTION

Following Will's application, The Rhythm Practice were matched with a MacBook with a spec suitable to support software including Logic Pro X.

The allocation of a loaned MacBook has allowed the project to benefit from a 'portable recording studio' and offers Will the opportunity to capture moments as they happen. As Silverwood is not a mainstream school, capturing these moments as they happen is vital - they cannot be recaptured.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE MATCHED WITH A DEVICE

"It just helps with confidence, knowing that you can work efficiently. It's helped with just having backing from Wiltshire Digital Drive - it helps to give the project some kudos and it's good for the school as they know the project is being supported by another organisation."

## POSTIVE IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT

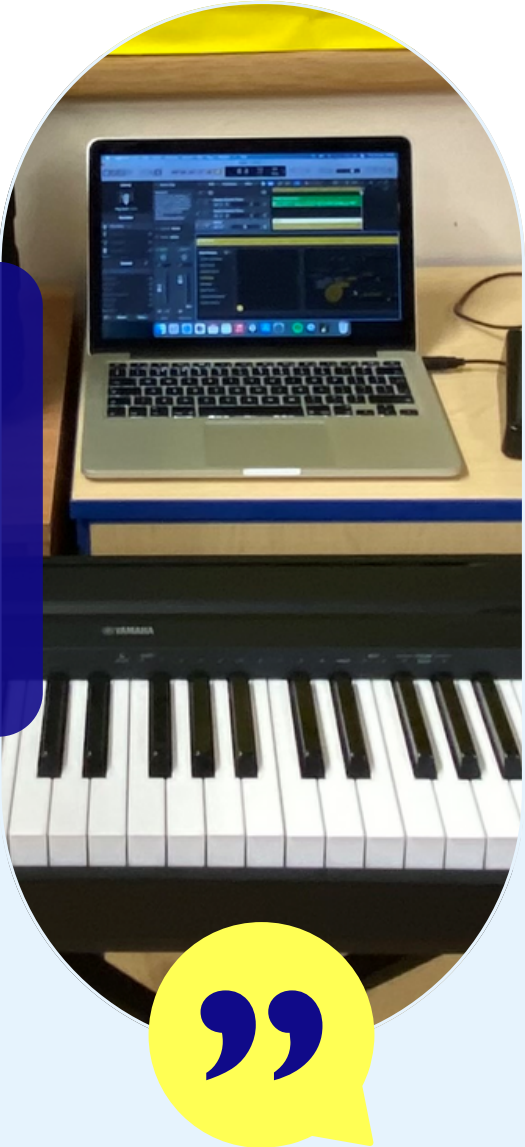
Will says that one of the most positive impacts of the project so far is getting the young people he's working with to perform and write music - something they had no idea they were capable of doing.

As his work has a therapeutic background, seeing the young people look after each other and become more inclusive is another takeaway:

"There is one group where four of the group members are able-bodied and one member is in a wheelchair, struggles to control his muscles and is only able to verbally communicate through an iPad. It is wonderful watching the rest of the group look after him and show him consideration. Using technology he is able to make genuine contributions to the development of the music and the final recordings. He is able to be a part of a group engaged in music. It is great to be able to help deliver such positive inclusivity."

## THE FUTURE OF SILVERWOOD CREATES MUSIC

"I hope the project expands and grows in future years within Silverwood School. I also work with Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford on Avon and there are discussions about restating a Special School festival incorporating all special needs schools in Wiltshire. Some of this work I am doing now will be able to feed into this festival in the future if it happens."



"It's such a great concept and there is so much digital equipment lying around, unused, and to be able to give it another lease of life to those that need it and who can benefit from it I think is a very good idea and it's also a brilliant service."

- Will Lawton on Wiltshire Digital Drive CIC

