

How can we support children and young people to make progress without telling them to practice?

Make it fun. Give them games to do

"Yes I don't mind tuning your new ukulele if you bring it into school"

Encourage to join CLYM, create new friends and learn new skills in a more 'enjoyable' way rather than just in a bedroom

After school practice arranged with a member of staff in school

Ask them to "play" at home instead of "practise".

Just changing the word 'practise' to 'play' makes it already sound less of a trial and more enjoyable.

Ask them what music they'd like to play.

Play along with backing tracks/YouTube

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Use online material to play along with

Use play along YouTube resources

Remember that not everyone wants to be a professional musician

Help them find a play buddy to play during break time

Actually teach them to practice. Give them short exercises to try at home. Re-label it and help them find resources that are interactive.

If possible, encourage children to have instruments set up, out of cases and instantly available to play when pupil is in the mood. When instruments are stored in cases, they are out of sight and mind

Music apps/games

Ask them to teach their grown ups what's they've learnt in class

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Suggest a variety of activities not necessarily 'practice this' - eg. Listen to this album this week, check out this artist, watch this video.

Why don't you show your mum how to put your instrument together when you get home today.

Suggest to your pupil that they play to a member of their family. Make sure you let their parent/carer know that you've requested this. Ask your pupil how it went.

Make practice activities creative. Eg compose a tune

Give children a choice of repertoire - "Which one of these three songs would you like to play?" Make it accessible - assign on Charanga and print their login (and spares!)

I think i over use the word practice when I actually mean play.

different activites- don't mention the word Practice!

Redefine what it means to practice. Listening to music is practice, thinking critically about what music you like is practice, improvising is practice!

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Speak to parents/school to try and remove friction-e.g. if a drum kit has to be set up before practice that is a major barrier. It should be as simple as sitting down.

Suggest joining a group where they can play together with others. Suggest playing their favourite pieces from lessons. Suggest getting together with friends to play together during the week.

Keep the interest alive by introducing 'wow' moments through listening.

Encourage playing to and with family and friends at home.

Help them to discover their musical interest, which will then inspire them to play more at home. Find tracks to play along to on YouTube.

At home composition task where they write/develop a short tune or warm up for the group based on the skills we are learning. The students engaged with this really well at home as well as in lessons.

Encourage children to perform 'mini concert' for family member. Make up your own tune. Online / app based resources.

Listening to or watching pieces that they are learning to play as a point of inspiration and reference. Schedule performances to work towards.

What opportunities does our service need to provide now for the future generation of musicians?

