



International Council for Caring Communities

COMPENDIUM SECTION:

“Music as a Natural Resource: Music in Education Project”

COUNTRY:

UK

PROJECT/INITIATIVE:

Sounds of Intent: Mapping the Musical Development of Children and Young People with Complex Needs

The aim of the project is to create a music-developmental framework of children and young people with severe, or profound and multiple learning difficulties that will be used to underpin the development of a custom-designed interactive piece of software. This will be freely and internationally available, and will permit practitioners and parents (a) to assess their child (b) to record the attainment and progress, and (c) to download resources for promoting musical engagement and fostering development.

DESCRIPTION:

- The project is a joint initiative of Roehampton University, London, and the Institute of Education (IoE), University of London.
- The Principal Investigators are Professor Adam Ockelford (Roehampton) and Professor Graham Welch (IoE). The Research Officer is Angela Vogiatzoglou (Roehampton) and the IT development is undertaken by Dr Evangelos Himonides (IoE).
- Evidence for the music-developmental framework has been derived from three sources: classroom observation, the literature on ‘typical’ musical development, and a theory (‘zygonic theory’) of how music makes sense to us all (see Ockelford, 2005, *Repetition in Music: Theoretical and Metatheoretical Perspectives*, London: Ashgate).
- The framework sets out six developmental levels, ranging from ‘non-awareness’ to advanced, enculturated musical understanding.
- The six levels are realised across three domains of musical engagement: reactivity, proactivity and interactivity – creating 18 discrete discrete ‘segments’ (see Figure 1).

- Each segment is further broken down into four elements (Figure 2).
- Each element is populated with ‘strategies for practitioners’, audio and video exemplars, curriculum materials (which will be downloadable), references to other work, and a matrix for gaining attainment and progress (which will make calculations automatically and enable attainment and progress to be mapped over time) – see Figure 3.
- The software that is currently being developed will be available freely from the internet across all platforms – the researchers favour in particular the use of ‘touchscreen’ technologies, which will be quick and easy for practitioners to use.
- It is envisaged that the completed product will function as a ‘Wiki’ resource, with practitioners able to contribute ideas and examples of their own to share with others.
- The *Sounds of Intent* system will enable data on attainment and progress to be shared across different cohorts of pupils and students if practitioners so wish.
- It is envisaged that the system of recording attainment and progress using touchscreen technology will have wider application beyond music.

CURRENT STATUS:

The project is ongoing and due to complete at the end of December, 2010.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See <http://www.soundsofintent.org/>

Ockelford, A., Welch, G., Zimmermann, S. and Himonides, E. (2005) ‘Sounds of intent’: mapping, assessing and promoting the musical development of children with profound and multiple learning difficulties’, *International Congress Series*, **1282**, 898–902.

Ockelford, A., Welch, G., Zimmermann, S. and Himonides, E. (2005) “‘Sounds of intent’ mapping, assessing and promoting the musical development of children with profound and multiple learning difficulties”, *Proceedings of International Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation Conference 2005 (‘Vision’)*, Amsterdam: Elsevier.

Ockelford, A., Welch, G., Zimmermann, S. and Himonides, E. (2005) ‘Mapping musical development in children with PMLD: the “Sounds of Intent” project’, *SLD Experience*.

Ockelford, A. (2008) *Music for Children and Young People with Complex Needs*, Oxford: OUP.

Ockelford, A. (2008) ‘Special educational needs’, *Classroom Music*, **26**(2), 8-9.

Welch, G.F., Ockelford, A., Carter, F-C., Zimmermann, S-A. and Himonides, E. (2009), ‘Sounds of Intent: Mapping musical behaviour and development in children and young people with complex needs,’ *Psychology of Music*, **37**(3), 348–370.

Cheng, E., Ockelford, A. and Welch, G. (2010) ‘Researching and developing music provision in special schools in England for children and young people with complex needs’, *Australian Journal of Music Education*.

Ockelford, A. and Vogiatzoglou, A. (2010) 'Sounds of Intent: Phase 3', *PMLD Link*.

Ockelford, A. (2010) 'Evidence of musical development of pupils with PMLD', *SEN Magazine*.

Ockelford, A., Welch, G., Jewell-Gore, L., Cheng, E., Vogiatzoglou, A. and Himonides, E. (under review, *European Journal of Special Needs Education*) 'Sounds of Intent, Phase 2: approaches to the quantification of music-developmental data pertaining to children with complex needs'

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PICTURES AND/OR VIDEOS

See attached files – *Sounds of Intent* Figures 1, 2 and 3.