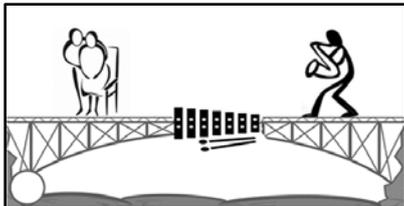**Music in Care Practioner**

The Music in Care Practitioner (MiCP) course was developed to provide knowledge and skills that would enable skilled musicians to competently work in healthcare and social care sector. There are over 1 million adults receiving social care (NHS Digital 2017) all of whom would gain therapeutic benefit from meaningful, music engagement. As important and effective as music in care practice by frontline workers is, it cannot be denied that the workforce is stretched and in short supply. There are only 800 (approximately) registered Music Therapist mostly working in children's services. This leaves an acute gap in provision.

MiCP training aims to equip skilled musicians with an understanding of the therapeutic value of meaningful music engagement has for individuals in health and social care. This is the first programme that is enabling musicians to broaden their scope of practice and benefit from an evidence based competency framework which standardises practice, conduct and continuous development. Trained MiCPs have access to a community of practice to share ideas and useful information and training.

This course has been piloted with our collaborators **Orchestra of the Swan**

Please **contact us** for booking information.

FAQ

Is a Music in Care Practioner the same as a music therapist?
No, they are not music therapist. In the UK Music Therapist have to undertake post-graduate education and be registered to practice. Music Therapy also has rigorous clinical aims and outcomes. A MiCP is a skilled musician trained in person centred and therapeutic, meaningful engagement with individuals/groups.
*Therapeutic – healing or restoring health or bringing a sense of peace or wellbeing (physical, psychological or emotional).

Is a Music in Care Practioner an entertainer?
No, whilst they may have a performance background. MiCPs turn their music skill from entertainment to focus on the therapeutic engagement with individuals/groups. They are invested in the impact of their musicianship and work together with the care team to design and develop person centred music approaches that are most supportive to the person. Entertainment tends to be a one-off experience (a good one) and does not involve individuals in the same way.

What kind of activities does a Music in Care Practioner do?
MiCPs are musicians who work with any range of instruments including voice. For example, piano, guitar, drums, harp, trumpet and even bassoon! They engage people in singing/playing to individuals. They can also work collaboratively singing/playing together with individuals, song writing, talking, reminiscing and using life story work.

What sort of areas can Music in Care Practioner work in?
MiCP choose their own area of interest and our training helps them to develop their practice. We have MiCPs working in dementia care homes, residential homes, hospice care, hospital and community music/singing groups. Areas of interest are open so MiCPs may focus on dementia, autism & learning disabilities, children and young people and so on.

What are the competencies that a Music in Care Practitioner has?
The competency framework is very comprehensive. MiCP training supports development these areas and more:

- Music Practice
- Understanding Health & Social Care Context
- Music in Care Practitioner Competencies
- Partnership Working
- Agreed ways of working
- Self-Care

What are the Music in Care Practitioner course pathways currently available?

Soundtrack to My Life	My Story in Music	Music is medicine	My Music Oasis	My Journey in Music
Music practice in dementia care and other memory loss conditions. Older people services.	Music practice in end of life care and life limiting conditions. Hospice care settings.	Music practice in healthcare and serious medical conditions.	Music practice in family carers in all areas.	Music practice in children and young people's settings. Autism & Learning disabilities.