

Information for parents

The correct pronunciation of Kodály is: Koh-dahy, -dah-ee

A sound file demonstration can be found at

www.britishKodalyacademy.org

"Music should belong to everyone"

Zoltán Kodály

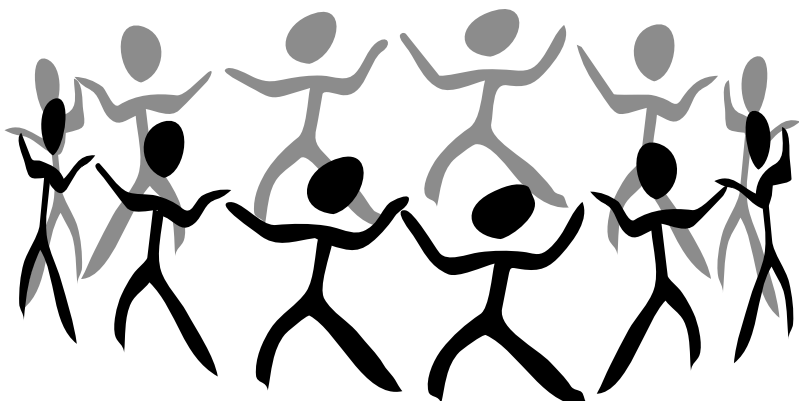
Parents can also get involved in the Kodály Programme.

- ◆ Encourage your child to sing from an early age.
- ◆ Play clapping, beat and rhythm games together to establish a feeling for pulse/beat.
- ◆ Ask your child to show you what games they have played when you have a Kodály Instructor visiting your school.

If you would like more information on what games and activities are incorporated within the Kodály Singing and Musicianship Programme contact the Instrumental Music Service. Address on back page of this leaflet.

"I used to say we should teach music to children nine months before they're born. Now I say we should teach music nine months before the birth of the baby's mother."

Zoltán Kodály



Contacts

For further information on The Aberdeenshire Kodály Singing and Musicianship Programme please contact:

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Other useful addresses:

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Youth Music Initiative Coordinator

Aberdeenshire Council

Education, Learning and Leisure

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Inverurie, AB51 3 WA

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Lorna.mclaren@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

www.aberdeenshirearts.org.uk

Scottish Arts Council

12 Manor Place, Edinburgh, EH3 7DD

☎ 0131 2266051

www.scottisharts.org.uk

National Youth Choir of Scotland

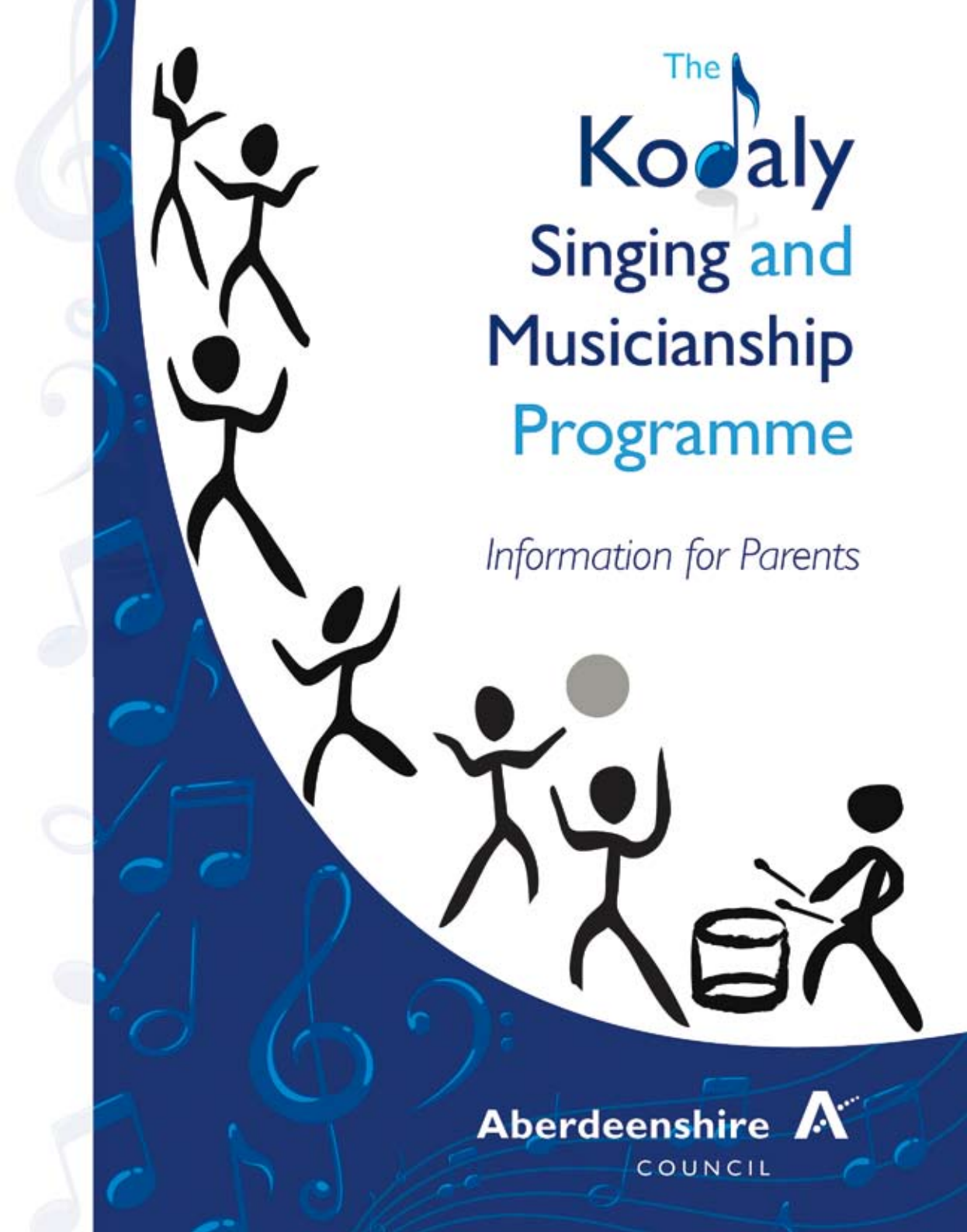
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The Kodaly Singing and Musicianship Programme

Information for Parents

Aberdeenshire 
COUNCIL

Kodály Singing and Musicianship Programme

The Kodály Singing and Musicianship Programme (KSMP) is an authority led initiative. It was launched in August 2004 and was originally known as The Kodály Singing Programme. As the programme encompasses all areas of musicianship it was decided that the name of the programme should reflect this, hence The Kodály Singing and Musicianship Programme.

In November 2006 an Instrumental Music Service Co-ordinator was employed by Aberdeenshire Council to manage the Youth Music Initiative activities that are co-ordinated via the Instrumental Music Service (IMS). An active partnership thrives between the IMS and the Arts Development Team and their YMI Co-ordinator.

The programme continues to develop and now covers all the Special Needs Schools as well as all the Primary Schools in Aberdeenshire.

Aims:

- ◆ To encourage early development of musicianship.
- ◆ To establish a culture of regular singing and playing musical games in school.
- ◆ To assist Class Teachers in feeling competent and confident enough to initiate and lead KSMP games in the classroom.
- ◆ To highlight the benefit of music games as an aid to developing the child on other curricular and developmental areas.

The programme aims to visit each Primary School in Aberdeenshire at least once a year.

The KSMP is one of Aberdeenshire's Youth Music Initiative (YMI) Programmes. YMI Programmes are funded by the Scottish Government via the Scottish Arts Council.

Zoltán Kodály

Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967) was a Hungarian composer and music educator. He was devoted to the development of singing and musical skills in children of all ages. He established a number of principles rather than a prescribed method. Some of these principles form the KSMP areas for development and are noted below:

- ◆ Musical elements are learnt unconsciously before being made conscious after which they are practised, read, written and reinforced.
- ◆ Begin in the nursery.
- ◆ Music is taught in the way children learn naturally, experiencing the music first in song and games.
- ◆ Relative sol-fa (do,re,mi,fa,so,la,ti,do) is used, beginning with just two or three notes. The pentatonic scale is introduced gradually, before the full scale.
- ◆ Hand signs are used as a visual aid.

"I think it's fun, I really like the games".

P3 Pupil

- ◆ There is a strong emphasis on games and making the music sessions stimulating and enjoyable
- ◆ Repetition and reinforcement is an important part of the learning process.
- ◆ Two part work is aimed for in all its possibilities in order to makes first steps in harmony singing.

"Musical nourishment which is "rich in vitamins" is essential for children".

Zoltán Kodály 1929

Ideas and Comments

There are a number of ways that staff in schools can help the Programme. Here are just a few thoughts.

- ◆ Using "Circle Time" to play some of the games. Even a very small amount of time given to a simple game is extremely beneficial to the child's musical and intellectual development.
- ◆ A Musical Stave painted on an area in the playground is a great tool for children to use at break times. There are numerous games that can be played with this simple resource.
- ◆ Kodály is not just about singing. Emphasise is put on all areas of musicianship. Clapping, Beat and Rhythm games can often be a really easy and fun activity to initiate.
- ◆ Many class teachers do not feel well equipped to teach music. The KSMP provides help. Kodály Instructors and class teachers can work together, sharing knowledge and expertise. If teachers or assistants feel they would like to develop Kodály skills further the Programme runs a number of training days throughout the year.



"I was really impressed by the progress made by the children, some of whom have complex additional support needs. I feel that the Kodály sessions have resulted in real impact in school".

Head Teacher at a Special school.

