**Could you be a Singing & Signing Champion in North Yorkshire?**

Great CPD opportunity for North Yorkshire Schools in Spring 2016

Schools in North Yorkshire are being invited to become Singing & Signing Champions through training and support delivered by award-winning charity Accessible Arts & Media (AAM).

Spaces are available for Music Coordinators or Music Department staff from any primary, special and secondary school in North Yorkshire to learn about using sign supported communication to embed and enhance inclusive singing within their school setting.

Selected schools will receive:

* **Free places for school staff on a CPD session:** *Introduction to sign-supported communication­* delivered by Hannah Thompson of AAM. Monday 11 January, 1pm – 4pm, Pickering Memorial Hall, Pickering.
* **A singing & signing music workshop** delivered in your school with your pupils. The session will be co-led by apprentice workshop leaders – adults or young people with learning disabilities – alongside a specialist trainer and supporter from AAM (spring term – dates and times to be agreed with participating schools).
* **Access to singing & signing resources** including song-sheets and demonstration videos via the AAM and NYMAZ websites.
* **A follow-up mentoring session** in your school with Hannah Thompson to provide further advice and guidance for staff on incorporating singing & signing within your school’s music provision.

There are spaces available for **four schools** to participate in the Singing & Signing Champions programme. We welcome music coordinators and teachers from all levels of experience – prior knowledge of singing & signing is not required. We do ask that you commit to attending the CPD session on 11 January (see above). There is no fee for involvement.

This opportunity is supported through the North Yorkshire Music Hub’s Inclusion Strategy, delivered by Accessible Arts & Media through the NYMAZ SEND Music Network. It is linked to a new Inclusive Music Project (IMPs) for disabled and non-disabled young people in the Scarborough area starting in 2016, led by Create in partnership with Accessible Arts & Media. Schools do not need to be based in the Scarborough area to become Singing & Signing Champions.

To apply for a place on the programme, please email Millie Watkins at millie@nymaz.org.uk with the following information by **Wednesday 16 December** at the latest:

* Name of applicant
* Name of school
* Position (i.e. Head teacher, Music Coordinator, Head of Music)
* Outline of current curricular and extracurricular music activity at your school and how you would plan to incorporate or increase singing & signing within provision (max. 300 words)

Successful schools will be contacted by Friday 18 December. Please contact millie@nymaz.org.uk or call 01904 543382 with any queries.

**Accessible Arts & Media** (AAM) is an award-winning, York-based charity that champions and celebrates the skills and talents of young people and adults with disabilities. They have been delivering pioneering inclusive arts and media projects for 33 years, helping people to find their voice through creativity, to have that voice heard and to make a real difference in their local community. <http://www.aamedia.org.uk/>

The **North Yorkshire Music Hub** aims to ensure that all children have access to music education in and out of school, through partnerships of organisations (led by North Yorkshire County Council Music Service) working to create joined up, high quality provision.

The **NYMAZ SEND Music Network** is open to all those in North Yorkshire who are working with (or interested in learning more about how to work with) children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, including music practitioners, workshop leaders, classroom teachers, staff and freelance practitioners. Membership is free and includes invitations to training events and conferences; opportunities to network with peers; plus e-bulletins featuring the latest policy updates, research and sector news. <http://www.nymaz.org.uk/our-networks/send-network>