

DRUM + BRASS



2025 report – Recognition for our practice

- **Strong partnerships**
- **Expansion of outreach work**
- **Growing Cumbria Brass Network**
- **Strong governance**

Drum and Brass Directors

Cath Gunapati – Human resources director

DJ De Jager

Hari Trivedi – Finance director

Julie Hoggarth – Strategic lead

Katy Wadkin

Raven Taylor

Sim Mistry

Key achievements

Fewer, more focused meetings

Forward planning rather than reaction

Clear HR and finance roles, clearer messaging

drumandbrass

Risks to address

Strategic decisions are disengaged from activities.

Operational activities are based on opportunity, not planning

Decisions not made with (financial) sustainability in mind



Brass at the Castle



Bands

14 bands including 10 Cumbrian bands and two Lancashire bands, 2 Royal Northern College of Music ensembles

Workshops

4 band workshops and children's forest activities

Visitors

ca. 500

Key achievements

Building connections between bands and young players

Building skills across the county

Building awareness of brass band offer



Cumbria Youth Brass Band

Term	Players	Attendance	Number of sessions	Average attendance	Performances
Spring	36	20	3		36
Summer	36	16	3	2	36
Autumn	35	20	2		35

Key achievements

Building connections between bands and between young players

Building skills across the county and networking with brass bands, especially training bands

Generating strong partnership with RNCM Engage project which has seen support for this band and for our festival



Cumbria Brass Network

Meeting	Topic	Attendance
Spring	player support survey	6
Summer	recruitment	8
Autumn	cancelled	
Winter	Inclusion	

. 4 has 4 answers (Checkboxes)

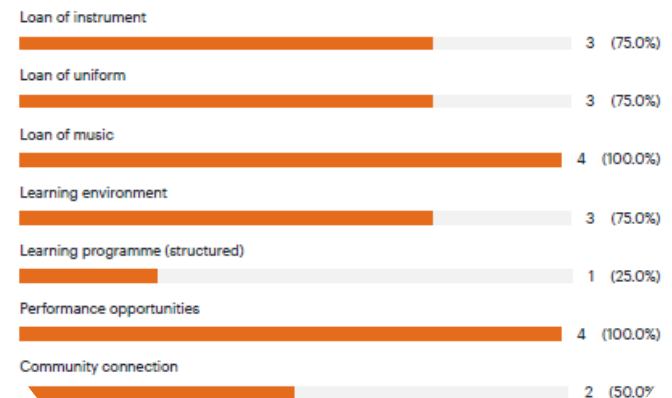
Key achievements

Building a network of 'doers' who are keen to grow brass playing in Cumbria

Collecting valuable data from bands

Low cost means of sharing information via newsletters

What does your band offer new players?"



Local Groups

Term	Players	Attendance	Number of sessions	Average attendance	Performances
Spring	26	237	33	7.2	
Summer	25	99	14	7.1	2
Autumn	24	67	9	7.5	2

Key achievements

Players have sense of belonging

Players skills are progressing more effectively

More coherent teaching programmes linking schools and groups e.g. Appleby Primary and town band



KSSB Fridays

Term	Players	Attendance	Number of sessions	Average attendance	Performances
Spring	19	86	7	12.3	3
Summer	22	81	7	11.3	2
Autumn	23	57	4	14.3	1

Key achievements

Players have a sense of connection and progression

Players confidence is growing such that they are able to arrange and deliver performances for the community

Partnership with Kirkby Stephen Silver Band brings huge value to our work. We thank the players and management for their support this year.



Local Heroes

Participants	Training	Planning	Delivery
Cassie, Kath. Raven, Sandra, Heather and Chloe	Safeguarding	Brass Band Weekender	Barrow Playcations
	Mental Health in brass bands	Cassie Neudeck's My Band and Me initiative	Brass Band Weekender
	Inlcusive practice		Mask making at KS Primary
Key achievements			
Building confidence and connection and expanding capacity to deliver projects			
Ideas factory of projects which promote inclusion			
Building relevant and often unconsidered practitioner skills			



2026 –

- **Increased outreach**
- **Increased player showcasing**
- **Inclusive practice campaign**



**Thank you for 10 fabulous years of
doing music differently!**

Julie Hoggarth, Strategic Lead