



**Project Leader:** Professor Lucy Green  
**Research Officers:** Drs. David Baker and Maria Varvarigou

# Ear Playing Project (EPP)

<http://earplaying.ioe.ac.uk>

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## The story so far

Dear friends and EPP participants,  
As we enter the Christmas season, the EPP teacher recruitment phase is nearly complete. On 21 January, a final induction session will take

### Professor Lucy Green



place at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

With financial support from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Professor Lucy Green developed

the Ear Playing Project (EPP). The EPP, for instrumental teachers, builds on Lucy's work on 'informal' musical learning within Musical Futures, with strategies that are now being used extensively in classrooms in the UK and beyond.

Over the past months, the EPP received huge support from organisations such as: the European Piano Teachers' Association (EPTA); the National Association of Music Education (NAME); the Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM); and the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM). All of these organisations kindly placed advertisements on their websites or in newsletters. The research officers (David and Maria) have also staffed recruitment stands at ABRSM conferences in London, Manchester and Birmingham. There have been 7 inductions so far, including sessions for the Oxford Piano Teachers' Group and Croydon Music and Arts. One hundred and nine instrumental teachers have

volunteered to join the project. Moreover, the feedback from the inductions has been overwhelmingly positive. Additionally, we have been joined by like-minded music teachers working in Brazil and Cyprus. As you can imagine, the research team are immensely excited about the growth of the project. We wish to convey our sincerest gratitude to every participating teacher.

### Drs. David Baker and Maria Varvarigou



## Please keep in touch

You might remember from the inductions that Lucy was able to identify 'learning styles' in her pilot. We are interested in whether or not these, or further styles, can be found in this main investigation. If you are willing to be observed, and are about to embark on the strategies, please do make contact prior to starting. Observing the students' first attempts at the strategies will provide extremely valuable insights.

Likewise, please let us know if you would like to assist with the ABRSM testing. This was detailed in the inductions; we are grateful to Dr. Nigel Scaife, ABRSM Syllabus Director for all his support.

In February, a teacher questionnaire will be sent to you by e-mail. If you have not completed the 7-10

weeks of the strategies with your students, please merely wait until later and, then, return the questionnaire.

Please also share your experiences of the project with the research team and other participants through the EPP blog. Posting a comment is really easy, with no technical knowledge required; the research team welcome your perspectives on the strategies, audio materials and handbook. Aside from being an enjoyable way to network as an educational practitioner, the remarks you provide are also valuable ongoing feedback for us. Here are the 5 easy steps:

1. Enter the secure zone of the website and click the link under 'EPP blog'.

2. Click 'Comments' in the light grey bar to display remarks already posted; scroll to 'Post a comment' at the bottom of the page.
3. Type into the box; do not forget to include your first and last name. The research team might want to follow up some of the remarks.
4. Select 'Anonymous' from the 'Comment as' dropdown menu and, then, click 'Post comment'.
5. If prompted to undergo a word verification step, please do so and click 'Post comment' again.

## Christmas wishes

Thank you for all your support with this exciting venture. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year!

Lucy, David and Maria (the EPP research team)



### Contact

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