

## A Word from the Chair

The Amber Trust was founded in 1995 to help blind and partially sighted children across the UK who have a talent or love for music. Our vision is for blind and partially sighted children, including those with additional disabilities, to have the best possible chance to meet their musical needs and aspirations and fulfil their potential.

For all the children Amber supports, music has a significant impact. It not only gives them great joy, it encourages them to learn, boosts their confidence and helps them to share their thoughts and feelings with others, opening up a world of independence, fulfilment and hope for the future. As many blind children in the UK live in relative poverty, they suffer a double disadvantage. Their families cannot afford to give them the musical experiences that can make such a difference to their lives.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch about the Little Amber project or with any general enquiries.



## Contact us

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# Little Amber

Music for  
visually impaired  
children under  
the age of five



**Music is not just a pastime, *it's a lifeline***

Registered Charity No: 1050503 • Company No: 3117803 • President: HRH The Duchess of Cornwall

## Little Amber

Little Amber is an innovative service offered by The Amber Trust. It aims to enable blind or partially sighted babies and young children to engage with music by providing families and professionals with resources and ideas for music-making.

Little Amber has two elements. The first is access to freely available resources that can be viewed online or downloaded. These are open to all families and professionals worldwide.

The second is the Little Amber Music Awards scheme, available to families in the UK. Families involved in the scheme will be given a set of activity cards and will receive four home visits a year by a specially trained practitioner, who will show parents, carers and siblings musical activities to do at home or when out and about. Little Amber Music Awards run until a child's fifth birthday, after which families are eligible to apply for a main Amber Trust Music Award. (Visit [www.ambertrust.org](http://www.ambertrust.org) for further information.)

Music is particularly important for babies and young children who are visually impaired. Research spearheaded by The Amber Trust has shown that music-making has a positive impact on children's lives in a way that nothing else does. The benefits include:

- bonding with parents and carers
- learning to listen carefully
- developing language
- finding out about the world around
- playing and having fun!

Some blind and partially sighted children develop special musical skills when they are still very young, and for them, getting the right support is vital.

## Are you are a parent, carer or professional interested in Little Amber?

You can access the freely available resources from:

[www.ambertrust.org/littleamber](http://www.ambertrust.org/littleamber)

You will need to register on your first visit, and sign in after that

**For families who wish to apply for a Little Amber Music Award:**

1. Go to [www.ambertrust.org/littleamber](http://www.ambertrust.org/littleamber)
2. Register
3. Complete and submit the online application form

## Little Amber Music Award Criteria

- Little Amber Music Awards are open to blind and partially sighted children from birth to their fifth birthday. We welcome applications for children with additional disabilities
- New applications can be made up to a child's fourth birthday
- All applications should be made by a parent or guardian but can be supported through the process by a health care worker or an early years practitioner
- If necessary, a waiting list will be set up and future families offered awards on a 'first come, first served' basis, at the discretion of the trustees

