

**Name**

Max Wheeler, Charanga Music

**Session**Ronan Mc Nicholl, Head of Digital Learning, Sevenoaks Prep  
Where next for Music and Art EdTech?

## Session Synopsis

Max will walk the audience through the story of how he developed the award winning VIP Studio Sessions online music platform with Brighton based Charanga. He will look at issues in KS3 Music and how technology can help to engage and transform this part of young people's school experience. He will look specifically at Cloud based tech and the implications it has for curriculum design and engagement.

## Speaker Profiles

Max Wheeler is a recording artist as one half of duo Anushka with over a million plays on Soundcloud and well over 7 million plays worldwide. The group has received Radio 1 plaudits from Annie Mac, Skream, Mary Anne Hobbs and others, and has toured the world from Texas to Siberia via Vietnam! The group released their debut album on Gilles Peterson's Brownswood label and will release their second album this year. Max has remixed a range of artists, ranging from Gorgon City, major label Indie bands as well as pop tracks featuring artists such as the legendary Snoop Dogg on vocals. Max also has previous album releases on Tru Thoughts and First Word Records as a producer, instrumentalist and rapper, even supporting seminal hip hop group De la Soul on tour as a rapper in his early twenties! He is the author and Programme Director of the VIP Studio Sessions online learning platform for Charanga, winner of the Music Teacher Award for Best Digital Resource in 2018 and currently in use by 40,000 secondary school students in the UK and around the world. He is also the author of the multimedia Hip Hop Coach resource used in schools nationwide. In 2018 he wrote and performed his first orchestral work: Grown a Grime Opera with the rap artist Eyez and Essex Youth Orchestra – in collaboration with Essex Music Hub. The project was a finalist for the Music Teacher award for Best Musical Initiative and is in talks for further performances around the UK. He consults and speaks at events for music software leaders Ableton and spoke at their Loop Festival in Berlin on the subject of Artists & Education. He designed the Music Technology Coursework for RSL/Rockschool's Music Production Level 2 Course, as well as reviewing the BTEC Level 2 Music Production Qualification. He hosted a panel debate at this years Music Ed Expo in Manchester featuring representatives from Youth Music and all the main exam boards discussing ways to support the '21st Century Musician'

Presently working as the Head of Digital Learning at Sevenoaks Preparatory School, Ronan has over 13 years' experience implementing educational technology initiatives. An Apple Distinguished Educator, Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert Fellow and computer science graduate, Ronan has a passion for making computing accessible and exciting for all students. He has a keen interest in immersive technologies, including virtual and augmented reality