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## Exmouth pupils join country-wide through music festival

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PUPILS from two Exmouth schools will join 4,000 colleagues from across Devon for a county-wide music education festival next week.

Youngsters at Brixington and Withycombe Raleigh primary schools have been invited to the Devon Music Mix at Westpoint Arena on Wednesday.

The festival marks the launch of a five-year plan to boost music provision in Devon schools and will include a series of performances and learning workshops.

The Devon Music Mix has been arranged by the Devon Music Service which has already backed a range of music projects around Exmouth.

Exmouth rock band Resonate are also to perform at the event among a varied bill of amateur and professional artists.

Devon Music Service head Ken Parr said: "Devon Music Service aims to work with schools and other organisations to ensure that people in Devon receive and enjoy excellent music education," he said.

"Music is an essential cultural ingredient that helps to create a sense of identity for both individuals and communities.

"We intend that young people are supported to reach their full potential. We will support schools to allow increasing numbers of children to access the music curriculum through learning to play a musical instrument."

Aims of the schools music programme include improving standards both in and out of the classroom.

Children will also be encouraged to take up instruments and share activities with their parents and families.

The Devon Schools Mix festival will be officially launched next week by popular singer-songwriter Billy Bragg and county council chairman Des Shadrack.

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