



Skipton Music Festival 2026

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General Rules and Regulations

General

The competition is controlled in all matters by the Committee and a majority decision of those present will be final.

The Committee may withdraw a class if there are too few entries, split a class if necessary or transfer any class to another day or time.

All trophies are held for one year only and should be cleaned and returned to the Trophy Secretary not later than 30th December in the year of that Festival.

The recording of performances and adjudications by any means is not permitted.

Entries

No performer may enter the same item in more than one class.

Grade classes are an alternative to age-determined ones.

'Own choice' titles, composers and authors must be given on the entry form and strictly adhered to.

Last minute changes may lead to disqualification.

In all classes where there is an age limit, the operative date is 1st September in the year preceding the Festival. The age of an ensemble is that of the majority of its members.

Late entries and entries that are incomplete by the deadline will not be accepted.

The Adjudicator

Performers should begin only when the Adjudicator indicates.

No performer, teacher or other member of the audience may approach the Adjudicator unless invited to do so nor engage him/her in conversation on any matter pertaining to a performance, otherwise the performer may be disqualified.

Awards in all classes are at the discretion of the Adjudicator, whose decisions and reports must be accepted as final.

The Adjudicator may stop, or ask for a repeat of, the performance of any test piece.

Unless otherwise stated, Adjudicator's copies should be provided for all 'own choice' items. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

The Accompanist

In all Solo Classes, the services of the Official Accompanist must be used for set pieces, but performers may bring their own accompanist for 'own choice' items.

Choirs may use their own accompanist for all items.

Copies of 'own choice' pieces for the Official Accompanist must be sent to the Secretary at the same time as your entry.

Performance

The order of performance is decided by ballot.

The Committee may disqualify any performer who is not ready to perform when called.

Performers who fail to observe time limits in 'own choice' classes may be disqualified or stopped.

Repeats may be played provided the time limit is observed.

Performers are reminded that the photocopying of music without the publisher's permission is illegal.

2026 Festival Syllabus

Adjudicator

Christina Thomson GRSM,LRAM,ARCM,PGCA

Christina studied horn, piano, and singing at the Royal Academy of Music.

A career in Bavaria followed, playing and teaching. She returned to London to perform and joined the music departments of Harrow and the Purcell School.

In 1991 she moved to Yorkshire where she taught at Ripon Cathedral Choir School, Sedbergh and Ampleforth College, as well as being a player, specialising in chamber music. She had an extensive private teaching practice encompassing the ages of 5 to 85!

She was a brass mentor for the Associated Board's professional development course.

Now, as well as being an Adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, she is a national and international examiner for the ABRSM.

Countries she has worked in include Europe, Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, South Africa, Thailand and the USA.

Online entry deadline: Monday 26th January 2026

Junior

All these classes are restricted to those still at school (or equivalent) and in Year 13 or under.

While the Open classes are, of course, open to all, most younger musicians will be expected to enter in this section.

Where a set piece is specified, the time shown is only an estimation, to be used as a guide. It should not affect your performance.

Deadlines for entry:

Postal: Monday 19th January 2026 Online: 10:pm Monday 26th January 2026

Junior Piano (Age)

If these age-related classes are not appropriate for you, choose to play in a grade-related class instead.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
101 Piano Solo Year 4 Test: Own Choice from Scenes at a farm by Walter Carroll, pub.Forsyth (excluding duets), only available from Forsyth's themselves.	Year 4 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£8.00
102 Piano Solo Year 5 Test: Own Choice from Piano Time Pieces Book 1 by P.Hall, pub. Oxford	Year 5 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
103 Piano Solo Year 6 Test: Own Choice from Encore Book 1, Grade 1&2, pub. ABRSM	Year 6 and under	Up to 2.5 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
104 Piano Solo Year 7 Test: Own Choice from Pop Performer! Book 1 (Grades 1-3 only) pub. ABRSM or Rainbow by Paul Harris pub. Boosey & Hawkes	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
105 Piano Solo Year 8 Test: Own Choice from Album for the Young Op 39 pub. ABRSM by Tchaikovsky	Year 8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
106 Piano Solo Year 9 Test: Own Choice from A Keyboard Anthology 2nd Series Book 2, Grade 3&4	Year 9 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
107 Piano Solo Year 10 Test: Own Choice from Grade 5 syllabus, any Board 2022 onward	Year 10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
108 Piano Solo Year 11 Test: Own Choice from Encore Book 3, Grade 5&6, pub. ABRSM	Year 11 and under	Up to 3.5 mins	£9.00
109 Piano Solo Year 12 Test: Own Choice from Grade 6 syllabus any Board 2022 onward	Year 12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
110 Piano Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice at least Grade 6 in standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00
121 Piano Duet Year 4 Test: Own Choice from Chesters Piano Duet Book 1 by C. Barratt, pub. Chester.	Year 4 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00 per duo
122 Piano Duet Year 6 Test: Own Choice from Piano Star Duets pub. ABRSM	Year 6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£10.00 per duo
123 Piano Duet Year 8 Test: Own Choice from 4 Handed Keyboard Crocodile, Edition Breitkopf 8592, pub. Breitkopf & Hartel & Härtels	Year 8 and under	Up to 4 mins	£10.00 per duo
124 Piano Duet Year 10 Test: Own Choice from Microjazz Duets, Collection 2, level 4, pub. Boosey & Hawkes	Year 10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 per duo
125 Piano Duet Year 12 Test: Own Choice	Year 12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 per duo
126 Piano Duet Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£10.00 per duo
131 Piano Trio Year 4 Test: Own Choice	Year 4 and under	Up to 3 mins	£10.00 per trio
132 Piano Trio Year 6 Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per trio
133 Piano Trio Year 8 Test: Own Choice	Year 8 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per trio
134 Piano Trio Year 10 Test: Own Choice	Year 10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per trio
135 Piano Trio Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per trio

Junior Piano (Grade)

If these grade-related classes are not appropriate for you, choose to play in an age-related class instead.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
141 Piano Solo Grade 2 Test: Own Choice up to Grade 2 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
142 Piano Solo Grade 3 or 4 Test: Own Choice of Grade 3 or 4 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
143 Piano Solo Grade 5 or 6 Test: Own Choice of Grade 5 or 6 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
151 Piano Duet any Grade This class may run alongside Class 152 (Piano Trio). A player may perform in both classes. Test: Own Choice of any Grade	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 per duo
152 Piano Trio any Grade This class may run alongside Class 151 (Piano Duet). A player may perform in both classes. Test: Own Choice of any Grade	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per trio

Junior Piano Non-Competitive

In these classes, only comments and certificates will be given

Class	Age	Time	Fee
161 Non-Competitive Piano Solo Year 4 See Class 163 for an accompanied performance Test: Own Choice	Year 4 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£8.00
162 Non-Competitive Piano Solo Year 6 Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
164 Non Competitive Piano Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
165 Non-competitive Piano Duet or Trio Year 4 You may include an adult accompanist in this class. (Create an entrant called "[Forename] Teacher" with an age under Year 4 to enter this class. The duo will be listed as "Jane Doe with Sheila" in the programme) Group of 2 to 3 people Test: Own Choice	Year 4 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00 per duo/trio

Junior Organ

Class	Age	Time	Fee
191 Organ Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 7 mins	£9.00

Junior Strings

Class	Age	Time	Fee
201 String Solo Year 7 Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
202 String Solo Year 9 Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
203 String Solo Year 11 Test: Own Choice	Year 11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
204 String Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00

Junior Guitar

Class	Age	Time	Fee
221 Guitar Solo Year 7 Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
222 Guitar Solo Year 11 Test: Own Choice	Year 11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
223 Guitar Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00
231 Guitar Ensemble Year 7 Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per group
232 Guitar Ensemble Year 13 Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group

Junior Woodwind

Class	Age	Time	Fee
301 Woodwind Solo Year 7 Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
302 Woodwind Solo Year 9 Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
303 Woodwind Solo Year 11 Test: Own Choice	Year 11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
304 Woodwind Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00

Junior Brass

Class	Age	Time	Fee
311 Brass Solo Year 7 Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
312 Brass Solo Year 9 Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
313 Brass Solo Year 11 Test: Own Choice	Year 11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
314 Brass Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00

Junior Recorder (Age)

If these age-related classes are not appropriate for you, choose to play in a grade-related class instead.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
321 Descant Recorder 1 Year 6 Test: Either 'Two at Twilight' or 'Pineapple Punch' (Sarah Watts, Razzamajazz Recorder Book 1)	Year 6 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£9.00
322 Descant Recorder 2 Year 6 Test: Either 'Kim's Ballad' or 'Movie Buster' (Sarah Watts, Razzamajazz Recorder Book 1)	Year 6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
323 Descant Recorder 3 Year 6 Test: Either 'Noodlin' and Doodlin' or 'How De Do De' (Sarah Watts, Razzamajazz Recorder Book 2)	Year 6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
324 Descant Recorder 4 Year 6 Test: Either 'Sea Sparkle' or 'I got the Bb blues' (Sarah Watts, Razzamajazz Recorder Book 2)	Year 6 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00
325 Descant Recorder Year 8 Test: Either 'Hey Down, Hoe Down' or 'Mellow Meadow' (Sarah Watts, Razzamajazz Recorder Book 3)	Year 8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
326 Treble Recorder Solo Year 8 Test: Either 'Ye Banks and Braes' (John Pitts, Treble Recorder from the Beginning) or 'Kalevala Melody' (Finnish) arr. Alan Bullard (Kathryn Bennetts and Peter Bowman, Time Pieces for Treble Recorder, Book 1)	Year 8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Junior Recorder (Grade)

If these grade-related classes are not appropriate for you, choose to play in an age-related class instead.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
331 Recorder Solo Grade 1 or 2 Test: Own Choice of Grade 1 or 2 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 2 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
332 Recorder Solo Grade 3 or 4 Test: Own Choice of Grade 3 or 4 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
333 Recorder Solo Grade 5 or 6 Test: Own Choice of Grade 5 or 6 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
334 Recorder Solo Grade 7 or 8 Test: Own Choice of Grade 7 or 8 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00

Junior Recorder (Age)

If these age-related classes are not appropriate for you, choose to play in a grade-related class instead.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
341 Recorder Duet Year 5 Test: Own Choice; Either from the Copper Recorder Ensemble Pieces (ABRSM Music Medals) or from John Pitts, Recorder Duets from the Beginning, Book 1, from any page up to and including 'Tango Chacabuco'	Year 5 and under	Up to 1 min	£10.00 per duo
342 Recorder Duet Year 7 Test: Own Choice Either from Bronze Recorder Ensemble Pieces Or from Silver Recorder Ensemble Pieces ABRSM Music Medals Or from John Pitts, Recorder Duets from the Beginning, Book 1 from 'Michael Row the Boat Ashore' onwards	Year 7 and under	Up to 2 mins	£10.00 per duo
343 Recorder Duet Year 9 Test: Own Choice Either from the Gold Recorder Ensemble Pieces (ABRSM Music Medals), or Platinum Recorder Ensemble Pieces (ABRSM Music Medals)	Year 9 and under	Up to 3 mins	£10.00 per duo
345 Recorder Duet Year 13 Test: Own Choice of Grade 5 standard or above	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00 per duo
351 Recorder Group 1 Year 6 One adult may be included in the group if necessary Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: Two own-choice pieces, one of which must be in at least two parts.	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00 per group
352 Recorder Group 2 Year 6 One adult may be included in the group if necessary Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: 'Free Kick' from Copper Recorder Ensemble Pieces (ABRSM Music Medals) and own choice in at least two parts	Year 6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.00 per group
353 Recorder Group 3 Year 6 One adult may be included in the group if necessary Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: 'Clock Piece' from Silver Recorder Ensemble Pieces (ABRSM Music Medals) plus own choice in at least two parts	Year 6 and under	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
355 Recorder Ensemble Year 11 One adult may be included in the group if necessary Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: One or two Own Choice pieces	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group
356 Recorder Ensemble Year 13 One adult may be included in the group if necessary Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: One or two Own Choice pieces	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 per group

Junior Recorder Non-Competitive

In these classes, only comments and certificates will be given

Class	Age	Time	Fee
361 Non-competitive Recorder Solo Year 6 Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
362 Non-competitive Recorder Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
363 Non-competitive Recorder Group Year 6 Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per group
364 Non competitive Recorder Group Year 13 Group of a minimum of 3 people Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group

Junior Piano Accordion

Class	Age	Time	Fee
401 Piano Accordion Solo Year 8 Test: Own Choice	Year 8 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
402 Piano Accordion Solo Year 10 Test: Own Choice	Year 10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
403 Piano Accordion Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice of at least Grade 6 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 8 mins	£9.00

Junior Percussion

For solo or duet performances. Larger groups should enter in an Instrumental Ensemble class

Class	Age	Time	Fee
411 Percussion Class Year 9 For solo or duet performances. Solo or Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	Solo: £9.00 Duo: £10.00 per duo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
412 Percussion Class Year 13 For solo or duet performances. Solo or Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 5 mins	Solo: £9.00 Duo: £10.00 per duo

Junior Jazz

Class	Age	Time	Fee
421 Jazz Class Year 13 Test: For any instrument. Choose from ABRSM or Trinity Jazz Syllabus - any Grade	Year 13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00

Junior Instrumental

Note: The "Alphabet" classes are also open to singers

Class	Age	Time	Fee
431 Solo and Accompaniment Year 13 For any instrument or voice with piano accompaniment. Both performers to be judged Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 10 mins	£10.00 per duo
441 The Alphabet Class Year 4 Music by any composer whose surname begins with U, V, W, X, Y or Z For any instrument or voice Test: Own Choice	Year 4 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
442 The Alphabet Class Year 6 Music by any composer whose surname begins with U, V, W, X, Y or Z For any instrument or voice. Test: Own Choice at least Grade 1 standard	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
443 The Alphabet Class Year 9 Music by any composer whose surname begins with U, V, W, X, Y or Z For any instrument or voice Test: Own Choice of at least Grade 3 standard	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
444 The Alphabet Class Year 13 Music by any composer whose surname begins with U, V, W, X, Y or Z For any instrument or voice Test: Own Choice of at least Grade 5 standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
451 Composer Class Year 4 Own Choice of music written by composers who were born or lived for most of their lives in Vienna. Test: Own Choice of any standard	Year 4 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
452 Composer Class Year 6 Own Choice of music written by composers who were born or lived for most of their lives in Vienna. Test: Own Choice of at least Grade 1 standard	Year 6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
453 Composer Class Year 9 Own Choice of music written by composers who were born or lived for most of their lives in Vienna. Test: Own Choice At least Grade 3 Standard	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
454 Composer Class Year 13 Own Choice of music written by composers who were born or lived for most of their lives in Vienna. Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
461 Films and Musical Class Year 4 Instrumental music based on any Film Music or Musical Theatre Test: Own Choice of any standard	Year 4 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
462 Films and Musical Class Year 6 Instrumental music based on any Film Music or Musical Theatre Test: Own Choice of any standard	Year 6 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00
463 Films and Musical Class Year 9 Instrumental music based on any Film Music or Musical Theatre Test: Own Choice of at least Grade 1 standard	Year 9 and under	Up to 4 mins	£9.00
464 Films and Musical Class Year 13 Instrumental music based on any Film Music or Musical Theatre Test: Own Choice At least Grade 6 Standard	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
511 Small Ensemble Year 7 For not more than ten performers and any combination of instruments and/or voices One adult may be included as accompanist or conductor Group of 2 to 10 people Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 6 mins	£12.00 per group
512 Small Ensemble Year 9 For not more than ten performers and any combination of instruments and/or voices. One adult may be included as accompanist or conductor. Group of 2 to 10 people Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 per group
513 Small Ensemble Year 13 For not more than ten performers and any combination of instruments and/or voices. One adult may be included as accompanist or conductor Group of 2 to 10 people Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
531 Instrumental Group Year 7 Any number of players and combination of instruments Up to six players - one adult may be included; over six - two adults Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 7 and under	Up to 8 mins	£12.00 per group
532 School Group Key Stage 1 A group of any number of players If the group is of mixed ages (perhaps a whole class), the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Up to two adults may be included. Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 2 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per group
533 School Group Key Stage 2 A group of any number of players If the group is of mixed ages (perhaps a whole class), the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Up to two adults may be included Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 15 mins	£12.00 per group
591 Other Ensembles Please see the classes in the Recorder and Guitar sections for other ensembles. DO NOT ENTER THIS CLASS!	Any		£0.00

Junior Non-Competitive

While this section is open to all, pianists and recorder players should enter the non-competitive classes in those sections wherever possible

Class	Age	Time	Fee
611 Non-Competitive Solo Year 8 Test: Own Choice	Year 8 and under	Up to 5 mins	£9.00
612 Non-Competitive Solo Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.00
622 Non-Competitive Ensemble Year 6 Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per group
623 Non-Competitive Ensemble Year 13 Own Choice for any combination of instruments and/or voices Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under	Up to 10 mins	£12.00 per group
691 Non-Competitive Piano and Recorder These classes will be found in the appropriate Piano (161-) and Recorder (361-) sections. DO NOT ENTER THIS CLASS!	18 and under		£0.00

Junior Vocal (Grade)

Be aware that some "Instrumental" classes are also open to singers - in particular the "Alphabet" classes (441-444).

Class	Age	Time	Fee
701 Vocal Solo Grades 1 or 2 Test: Own Choice from current ABRSM List A Grade 1 or 2	Year 4 to Year 13		£9.00
702 Vocal Solo Grades 3 or 4 Test: Own Choice from current ABRSM List A Grade 3 or 4	Year 4 to Year 13		£9.00
703 Vocal Solo Grades 5 or 6 Test: Own Choice from current ABRSM List A Grade 5 or 6	Year 4 to Year 13		£9.00
704 Vocal Solo Grades 7 or 8 Test: Own Choice from current ABRSM List A Grade 7 or 8	Year 4 to Year 13		£9.00

Junior Vocal (Age)

Be aware that some "Instrumental" classes are also open to singers

Class	Age	Time	Fee
711 Novice Class Year 13 Open to any young singer who has not yet won a class at any festival Test: Own Choice of any song in the current AB Examination Syllabus	Year 13 and under		£9.00
712 British Composer Class Year 9 Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under		£9.00
713 British Composer Class Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under		£9.00
721 Folk Song Year 9 Sung unaccompanied. If a composer is credited, it's not a folk song! Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under		£9.00
722 Folk Song Year 13 Sung unaccompanied. If a composer is credited, it's not a folk song! Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under		£9.00
725 Pop Ballad Years 9-13 You may use a backing track in this class. If you choose to do so, you will need to provide your own means of playing it. (We cannot link your equipment into the venue's sound system.) Test: Own Choice of any pop ballad	Year 9 to Year 13		£9.00
726 Duet Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under		£10.00 per duo

Youth Vocal Show Songs

Songs from Disney/Pixar animated films are acceptable in these classes.

Though some children may be capable of the bigger show songs, there are certain life circumstances which are inappropriate in a young person's repertoire. Adjudication will take the appropriateness of a song into account.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
733 Songs from the Shows Year 6 Test: Own Choice	Year 6 and under		£9.00
734 Songs from the Shows Year 9 Test: Own Choice	Year 9 and under		£9.00
735 Songs from the Shows Year 13 Test: Own Choice	Year 13 and under		£9.00

Junior Vocal Non Competitive

In these classes, an adjudication will be given but no places awarded
Be aware that some "Instrumental" classes are also open to singers

Class	Age	Time	Fee
740 A Child's Song (non-competitive) Year 5 Test: Own choice of a suitable child's song	Year 5 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.00

Junior First Steps

Class	Age	Time	Fee
771 Nursery School (EYFS) music making Singing and musical experience for those not yet in Reception Class Group of any size	Any		£0.00 per group
772 Reception class music making Singing and musical experience for those in Reception Class Group of any size	Any		£0.00 per group

Junior Vocal Choirs

To encourage the participation of a diverse range of schools, a selection of classes is provided.
Schools are requested to enter ONE choir only in any class. If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion.
All classes in one Key Stage may be asked to perform in a single session.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
781 Key Stage 1 Whole Class Choir For a whole class or school (unauditioned). If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 2 and under		£14.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
782 Key Stage 1 Auditioned Choir For choirs with selected voices. If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 2 and under		£14.00 per group
783 Key Stage 1 Non Competitive Choir A non-competitive class for any KS1 choir. An adjudication will be given but no places allocated Only one choir per school. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 2 and under		£14.00 per group
784 Key Stage 2 Whole Class Choir For a whole class or school (unauditioned). If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Only one choir per school. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 6 and under		£14.00 per group
785 Key Stage 2 Auditioned Choir For choirs with selected voices. If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Only one choir per school. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 6 and under		£14.00 per group
786 Key Stage 2 Non Competitive Choir A non-competitive class for any KS2 choir. An adjudication will be given but no places allocated Only one choir per school. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 6 and under		£14.00 per group
788 Youth Choir Year 9 and under If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 9 and under		£14.00 per group
789 Youth Choir Year 13 and under If the choir is of mixed ages, the predominant age of the performers should be the defining criterion. Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Year 13 and under		£14.00 per group

Young People's Recital

In these prestigious classes, a high standard of preparation, presentation and performance is expected.

You will present your own choice of two or more contrasting works for any instrument or voice. Your programme planning, dress and presentation will all be taken into account.

The accompaniment will not be judged but if you wish to use the Official Accompanist, you must arrange a rehearsal.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
801 Junior Solo Recital Overall standard up to Grade 4 For any instrument or voice Test: Own choice of two or more contrasting works	Year 8 and under	Up to 10 mins	£10.00
802 Intermediate Solo Recital Overall standard up to Grade 6 For any instrument or voice Test: Own Choice of two or more contrasting pieces	Year 11 and under	Up to 12 mins	£11.00
803 Senior Solo Recital Overall standard at least Grade 7 For any instrument or voice Test: Own Choice of two or more contrasting pieces	Year 13 and under	Up to 15 mins	£12.00

Open

Open classes are available to all, regardless of age. (Exceptions are for a few "Young Singer/Instrumentalist" classes that have an age restriction.)

Although open classes are open to performers of school age, the Junior classes are designed to cater for most of their needs

Deadlines for entry:

Postal: Monday 19th January 2026 Online: 10:pm Monday 26th January 2026

Young Performer

Classes for younger adults

If you wish to use the official Accompanist, you must arrange a rehearsal

Class	Age	Time	Fee
911 Young Instrumentalist 18-25 years Overall standard Grade 8 and above Test: Two or more contrasting works for any instrument	Between 18 and 25	Up to 15 mins	£11.00
912 Young Singer 18-25 years Overall standard Grade 8 and above Test: Two or three contrasting songs, one to be sung in the original language (not English or Latin)	Between 18 and 25	Up to 10 mins	£11.00
913 Early Italian Aria 17-21 years Test: Any song from 24 Italian Songs and Arias pub. Schirmer (vol 1722)	Between 17 and 21		£11.00

Open Instrumental

See also the non-competitive Open classes (981 - 983)

Class	Age	Time	Fee
921 Open Instrumental Solo Grades 1 - 4 Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 4 mins	£11.00
922 Open Instrumental Solo Grades 5 - 7 Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.00
923 Open Instrumental Solo Grade 8 and above Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 8 mins	£11.00
931 Amateur Mixed Ensemble 2 - 8 players Two contrasting pieces for up to eight players Group of 2 to 8 people Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 8 mins	£15.00 per group
932 Amateur Mixed Ensemble more than 8 players Two contrasting pieces for more than eight players Group of a minimum of 9 people Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 8 mins	£15.00 per group
933 Recorder Ensemble Group of any size Test: Two Own Choice pieces	Any	Up to 8 mins	£15.00 per group

Open Vocal

See also the non-competitive Open classes (981 - 983)

Class	Age	Time	Fee
940 Victorian or Edwardian Song Test: Own Choice of a Victorian or Edwardian Song	Any	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
941 Light Opera This year we focus on Noel Coward, Gilbert and Sullivan, Johann Strauss II, Rossini, Jacques Offenbach or John Gay though other composers will be acceptable. Test: Any song or aria from a light opera	Any	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
942 Songs from the Shows Test: Own Choice - the show must be named	Any	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
943 Oratorio or Mass Test: An aria from any oratorio, mass or secular cantata	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.00
944 Opera Class Test: Any song or aria from an opera	Any		£11.00
945 British Composer Test: Any song from a British composer	Any	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
946 French Composer Test: Any song by a French composer	Any		£11.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
947 Folk Song A folk song is sung unaccompanied. If a composer is credited, it's not a folk song! Test: Any folk song from any country	Any	Up to 4 mins	£11.00
948 Spiritual May be accompanied or unaccompanied. Test: Any traditional African-American spiritual	Any	Up to 4 mins	£11.00
949 Singer-Songwriter This year's focus: Billy Joel, Bob Dylan, Tim Buckley, James Taylor, Carole King or Kate Bush but any similar song will be acceptable. May be accompanied (or self-accompanied) by piano or guitar. No microphones to be used. Test: Any popular folk music from the 70s/80s	Any	Up to 4 mins	£11.00
950 Over 60s' Solo Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 5 mins	£11.00
955 Solo Voice (Rosebowl) Class This year's focus: Edvard Grieg, Ralph Vaughn Williams, George Gershwin, Gabriel Fauré or Benjamin Britten Test: Any song from a classical, romantic or 20th century composer	Any		£11.00
961 Duet Test: Own Choice for any combination of voices	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per duo
962 Lieder Class Singer and accompanist will both be judged. You will need to register a "duet" with your accompanist. Test: Any German song, especially of the romantic period	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00 per duo

Open Vocal Choirs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
971 Ladies Choir Group of a minimum of 10 people Test: Own choice of two contrasting pieces. The choices must be in at least three parts	Any	Up to 8 mins	£18.00 per group
972 Mixed Voice Choir Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Any	Up to 8 mins	£18.00 per group
973 Male Voice Choir Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces	Any	Up to 8 mins	£18.00 per group
974 Small Vocal Ensemble For a maximum 16 singers Group of 4 to 16 people Test: Own Choice of two contrasting pieces in at least two parts	Any	Up to 8 mins	£15.00 per group

Open Non-Competitive

These classes are open to anyone not a student in full-time music education.
You can choose to perform among colleagues of whichever standard you prefer

Class	Age	Time	Fee
981 Non-Competitive Class (More experienced) For any combination of instruments and/or voices (Non-competitive CHOIRS should NOT enter this class. Enter Class 983 instead) Solo or Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 10 mins	Solo: £11.00 Group: £15.00 per group
982 Non-Competitive Class (Less experienced) For any combination of instruments and/or voices (Non-competitive CHOIRS should NOT enter this class. Enter Class 983 instead) Solo or Group of any size Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 5 mins	Solo: £11.00 Group: £15.00 per group
983 Non-Competitive Choir For all open choirs Group of a minimum of 8 people Test: Own Choice	Any	Up to 10 mins	£15.00 per group

Footnote

Online entry deadline: Monday 26th January 2026