



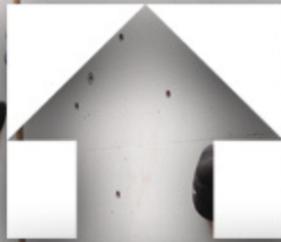
**WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL**

# **BRASS SYLLABUS**



**WCAAF**  
75TH ANNIVERSARY  
2026

**SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CLASSES FOR  
ALL BRASS INSTRUMENTS AND ALL  
AGES AND ABILITIES**



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# BRASS Syllabus

Brass classes are for all brass instruments. (This does not include saxophone, as this is classed as a woodwind instrument. Saxophone players may wish to enter the woodwind and/or jazz sections.) These classes are intended to take place on Saturday 7th March 2026 at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester. If we have enough entries, we will split classes by instrument (i.e. trumpet, trombone etc).

All large ensembles are free of charge and 25% 'early bird' discount is available until 1st December 2025. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss any free places and bursaries that may be available: [admin:wcaf.org.uk](mailto:admin:wcaf.org.uk)

Categories in the brass section this year:

Brass solo

Brass ensemble

Non-competitive woodwind solo

Non-competitive brass ensemble

Unless otherwise stated, classes are competitive and places will be awarded. Times and dates of all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes dependent upon the number of entries received. Non-competitive classes can be found at the end of this section.

Performers should introduce their piece(s) at the beginning of their performance. Timings should include introduction and any breaks between pieces. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator.

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC) but please ensure entries are updated with the name and composer of the piece by 16th January 2026 at the latest.

## Brass Solo

Solo performers of any age may enter only the class most appropriate for their playing standard and the open class for each instrument in each competitive section. However, performers may make further entries to the same class if playing more than one instrument and may enter non-competitive classes in addition. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry in the brass section. If there are enough entries, we will split classes by instrument.

In classes where the time limit is 5 minutes or less, ONE piece of the performer's choice is to be performed. Where the time limit is 6 minutes or more, one OR two pieces of the performer's choice may be performed within the time limit for the class.

Performances in the novice classes may be accompanied. All performances in the beginner, intermediate, advanced and open cases should be accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is preferred. However, if you use a backing track this must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Please note the additional information as you make the entry. If you would prefer to play without accompaniment, please see the unaccompanied classes in the general music section.

In addition, performers may also wish to enter the following special classes:

- Performers who are Grade 6 standard or above AND were aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026 may also wish to enter the Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup class.
- Performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music.

- Performers of any age who are grade 6 standard or above may also wish to enter the William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver class.

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT PIECES PERFORMED IN THE BRASS SECTION MAY ALSO BE PLAYED IN THE ABOVE SPECIAL CLASSES\***

The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive and a small prize will be awarded to all entrants.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
250 NOVICE BRASS SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
251 BEGINNER BRASS SOLO (Approx. grade 1-3)	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
252 INTERMEDIATE BRASS SOLO (Approx. grade 4-5)	Any	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
253 ADVANCED BRASS SOLO (Approx. grade 6-8)	Any	Up to 6 mins	£13.33
254 OPEN CLASS FOR BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£16.00

## **Brass Ensemble**

**\*\*ENTRY FOR ENSEMBLES IS FREE OF CHARGE IF ENTERED BY 1st DECEMBER\*\***

Brass ensembles may contain any combination of brass instruments and percussion.

Conductors of any age are permitted.

The age ranges for groups/ensembles align with school years. The ages are also included but please be aware this refers to the age of the individual on the 1st September 2025.

Please ensure that the age of the eldest performer on the 1st September 2025 is given in all except open adult classes. This will enable classes to be split fairly if there are too many entries.

Individual performers may perform as part of more than one ensemble. However, ensembles made up of exactly the same performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and/or the open class in this section.

Ensembles entering the open adult classes may include performers under the age of 18 but the majority of performers must be over 18.

Ensembles may also wish to enter the small or large ensemble classes found in the general classes section.

Up to 2 contrasting pieces should be performed within the time limit for the class (including the introduction and breaks within pieces).

Different pieces must be played or performed for each entry.

Performances in these classes may be accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is always preferred. If you choose to use a backing track rather than an accompanist, the backing track must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Any backing track must not contain the instrument to be played as part of the ensemble. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>255 BRASS ENSEMBLE - School year 4 and under</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	8 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>256 BRASS ENSEMBLE - School year 6 and under</b> Award: 011 - Worcester City Brass Youth Band Cup Group of a minimum of 3 people	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>257 BRASS ENSEMBLE - School year 9 and under</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>258 BRASS ENSEMBLE - School year 11 and under</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>259 BRASS ENSEMBLE - School year 13 and under</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>260 BRASS ENSEMBLE - Open</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
<b>261 BRASS ENSEMBLE - Open adult</b> Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group

## Non-competitive Brass Performance

These are non-competitive classes for all abilities, where constructive comments on the performances will be given by the adjudicator, but no places awarded or comparison made between performances. Please note that the ages for the classes below are the age of the performer on 1st September 2025.

Performances in these classes may be accompanied and if so, 'live' accompaniment is preferred. However, if you use a backing track this must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Please note the additional information as you make the entry. Performers may play one or more piece(s) within the time limit for the class.

## Non-competitive Brass Solo

Performers may enter with their own choice of piece on any brass instrument. Performers may make more than one entry to these classes on different instruments. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
262 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.67
263 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
264 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£13.33
265 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£16.00

## Non-competitive Brass Ensemble

**\*\*ENTRY FOR ENSEMBLES MADE UP OF PERFORMERS OF SCHOOL AGE IS COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE IF ENTERED BEFORE 1st DECEMBER 2025!!\*\***

Ensembles may perform their own choice of piece on any combination of brass instrument. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one ensemble. Ensembles may also wish to enter the competitive ensemble classes. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
266 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS ENSEMBLE - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group