

**COTTINGHAM  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**



# **MUSICAL FESTIVAL 2026**



**23<sup>rd</sup> January – 7<sup>th</sup> February**

# **Syllabus**

**Entries close Monday October 27<sup>th</sup> 2025**

[www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/](http://www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/)

# COTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH MUSICAL FESTIVAL

is affiliated to

## THE BRITISH & INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSICAL FESTIVALS



PERFORM | EDUCATE | INSPIRE

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Further copies of this SYLLABUS and ENTRY FORMS are obtainable  
on the Church website: [www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/](http://www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/) or from:  
Cottingham Methodist Church; the Festival Treasurer (by sending an A5 SAE);  
The Photo Shop in Cottingham; Gough & Davy, Paragon Street, Hull;  
Beverley Music Emporium, Norwood, Beverley;

**COTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH** welcomes performers, teachers and audience to the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Musical Festival. The Festival is run to give performers an opportunity to perform in a friendly environment, for them to receive constructive criticism and to give us all an opportunity to enjoy their performance. We recognise the hard work they do along with the dedication of teachers and supporters.

## **ADJUDICATORS AND ACCOMPANISTS**

Piano	Anthony Williams MMus, GRSM(Hons), DipRam, LRAM
Instrumental	Kay Tucker AGSM, ARCM, LTCL, PGCA, PGCE
Singing	John Powell MA(Cantab), ARCM, CertEd
Accompanists	Dorcas Leather, Margaret Pearson BA LRAM

## **FESTIVAL DATES:**

**Timings and days below are *provisional and may change***, depending on how many entries we receive in each section. It is possible that we may need to use additional evenings. (Please note, 'Two Skills' classes (701, 702) and Class 750 may take place on any of the 3 weekends.) Classes will be held at the Methodist Church, Hallgate, Cottingham, HU16 4BD.

Friday January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Evening	Piano
Saturday January 24 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Piano
Friday January 30 <sup>th</sup>	Evening	Instrumental
Saturday January 31 <sup>st</sup>	All day	Instrumental
Friday February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon/morning	School choirs
Friday February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Evening	Singing
Saturday February 7 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Singing
Saturday March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon	Celebration concert

**BIFF MARKING SCHEME:** The British & International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) developed a new marking scheme which we began using in the 2025 Festival. In their own words, 'the aim of the scheme is to promote BIFF's core values –Perform | Educate | Inspire' – through 'praise for achievements; positive and constructive teaching points; honesty; kindness and warmth; encouragement and affirmation'. The full outline of the Descriptors and Criteria can be found on page 4. At Cottingham, we have taken this opportunity to move away from giving a mark for each performance and the written feedback will now show a category (band) but not a specific mark. The adjudicator will still allocate first and second places etc., guided by the criteria.

**TROPHIES:** Trophies are awarded in most classes (see Rule 12) and they must be returned by the date requested ready for the next year's Festival. Trophies are the responsibility of the winner during that time, any damage incurred should be repaired at their expense and they should be returned in a clean condition. The cost and arranging of engraving (if desired) are also the responsibility of the holder.

**OTHER TROPHIES** are presented at the discretion of the Festival Committee and Adjudicators: Victor Ludorum Shields are awarded for the most meritorious performance in each section of the Festival and the Eardley Kemp and Frederick Ingilby Trophies are presented to musicians showing outstanding promise in this year's Festival. The winners will each receive a cheque from the Friends of the Festival to help them in their studies.

**CHANGES for 2026:** following a very tightly packed singing weekend in 2025, we have taken the decision to reduce the number of adult singing classes in this year's syllabus. We have kept the classes which regularly receive the most entries and the own choice (any style) class is now open to all ages. We will keep this under review.

**FESTIVAL CELEBRATION CONCERT** (Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026): A number of performers, representing all age groups and sections of the Festival, will be invited to perform at this event which will be in support of the a local charity. Since 1985 (40 years) the concerts have raised over £16,300 for various charities. Our 2025 concert in aid of the Downright Special raised £807 – thank you to everyone who contributed.

#### TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

If you have any comments about the Festival or suggestions for things we might include in the future, please do let us know.

### NEW BIFF MARKING SCHEME

Marking Band	Descriptors	Criteria
Developing 65 - 69	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry.	An inconsistent performance with an overall need for accuracy and /or continuity and artistic development.
Progressing 70 - 74	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.	A generally secure performance in notes and rhythm at a reasonable tempo but as yet with limited attention to detail, tonal qualities, and style.
Merit 75 - 79	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability.	Mostly fluent and accurate, with some awareness of tone and style, but requiring a sense of communication and performance.
Commended 80 - 84	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills.	Confident, with clear evidence of tonal and stylistic qualities and a developing awareness of communication and performance, although there may be moments of imprecision.
Honours 85 - 89	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality.	Assured and expressive, demonstrating a high level of technical security, imagination and stylistic insight and with a real sense of communication and performance, although small blemishes may be present.
Outstanding 90 - 94	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.	A stimulating, imaginative and persuasive performance, showing stylistic flair, interpretative insight, poise and unobtrusive technical command.
Exceptional 95 +	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.	An astonishingly impressive performance displaying effortless technical control and superlative individuality in its artistry, and profound musical insight.

## **OUR ADJUDICATORS**

**ANTHONY WILLIAMS** Concert pianist, writer, lecturer, examiner and adjudicator, Anthony Williams studied at the Royal Academy of Music, London and then at Reading University.

Following international competition success, he embarked on a career as a concert pianist and alongside this quickly established an international reputation as a piano teacher and a passionate educator of pianistic musicianship at all ages and levels, giving piano masterclasses, public lecture-recitals and seminars on performance and the art of teaching both in the UK and abroad, including China and Hong Kong. He also coaches on International Summer Schools and Residential Courses.

Anthony has given talks on piano performance for Radio 3 and is author and editor of various publications including *The Best of Grade and Fingerprints* (Faber), *Teaching Notes* (ABRSM), *EPTA Piano Journal*, and the highly acclaimed *Piano Teacher's Survival Guide* (Faber).

He is an ABRSM examiner (diploma, jazz and classical), educational consultant, and a member of the examiner training and review team. He is also a member of BIFF, Chair of EPTA Europe and President of Chipping Norton Music Festival. He was Head of Keyboard and Instrumental at Radley College, Oxfordshire for 34 years until retiring last summer to focus on his freelance and consultancy work.

**KAY TUCKER** was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire and began studies on the cello at the age of 12, continuing studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Her portfolio career has combined teaching and adjudicating with performing as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player.

Since 1998, Kay has been in popular demand as an Adjudicator throughout the UK, having worked at well over 200 festivals including the National Festival of Music for Youth.

'Encouragement' is a key word in all aspects of Kay's work and she has great joy in working alongside musicians of all ages, particularly the very young.

Kay's passion for teaching led her to develop an early years strings & general musicianship system known as 'Stringbabies'. Since its inception in 2004, 'Stringbabies' has become well established and accepted as a leading approach in strings teaching (surprisingly to all ages!) and is being delivered throughout the UK and abroad in individual teaching practices, schools and music services.

In 2016, *Musicbabies for Recorder* was published, being the first adaptation of *Stringbabies* for a non-stringed instrument.

Kay works in partnership with Victoria College Examinations in delivering a bespoke *Stringbabies* Award for beginner string players and also with Charanga, who are publishing the violin and cello *Stringbabies* books on their e-learning platform.

In 2013 and 2014, *Stringbabies* was shortlisted for the Inaugural Rhinegold Music Teachers Awards for Excellence in music education. In 2014 Kay was also a finalist in the BBC Community Heroes Awards in Education in respect of her work in developing 'Stringbabies'.

Over recent years, Kay worked as a consultant to Trinity Guildhall, selecting and co-selecting repertoire for graded exams and diplomas.

Kay was a Trustee and member of the Executive council of the European String Teacher's Association (ESTA). In 2018 she was presented with the ESTA award for exceptional services, in recognition of her work in initiating the Post Graduate Certificate in string teaching accredited by Chichester University.

In 2009, Kay co-founded Horsham Performers Platform and for 10 years served as Chair, continuing as Co-Chair from 2019.

Kay became an Adjudicator Member of the British and International Federation of Festivals in 1997 and undertook the Post-graduate Certificate in Adjudication in 1999/2000.

**JOHN POWELL** Born in London and educated at the University of Cambridge, John Powell has been involved in music in Manchester for nearly 50 years – initially on the staff at Chetham's and as a member of the BBC Northern Singers, more recently as a freelance conductor, singer and singing teacher. For over 25 years he worked with the National Youth Choir and subsequently taught singing for nine years at the University of York. He has been Musical Director of Tatton Singers in Knutsford since 2005 and also conducts choirs in Bolton and Wigan.

John particularly enjoys preparing singers for special events. Recent major projects have included Walton's Belshazzar's Feast at the Bridgewater Hall, Bernstein's Chichester Psalms at the RNCM and a concert tour of Lithuania. A highlight last year was conducting Monteverdi's spectacular Vespers in Knutsford. He regularly directs Singing Days and workshops as well as the annual CSSM chamber choir summer school.

As a singer John has had a long career in radio choirs and performed a wide range of oratorio, from Monteverdi to Tippett. Recitals have been a key part of his work for several decades – including two performances for The Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society.

As an adjudicator for The British and International Federation of Festivals for over 20 years he greatly enjoys engaging with performers of varied ages and experience and encouraging them to explore and stretch their music-making.

## **RULES**

### **1. ENTRIES:**

See the Entry Form for details of how to enter by post or email. It would help us enormously if you could download an entry form and type your entry, rather than handwrite it (especially your email address!).

***Entry closing date***  
**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Fees are shown for each class within the syllabus. Fees cannot be refunded except where the Festival cancels a class. Payment may be made by BACS, Cheque (payable to "CMCMF") or cash.

**2. ENTRANTS** may perform once only in each class, except for duet and trio classes where they may play more than once as long as they have different partners, or are a bona fide member of two choirs or groups.

### **3. AGES:**

**Performers should calculate their age as at January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026.**

**4. GRADES:** Where the grade is given, this is the grade we would expect the performer to have attained. The piece performed should be at the

standard for that grade or a maximum of 1 grade higher. In pre-Grade 1 classes, the piece chosen must be Grade 1 maximum. A pupil who is missing an exam and working towards a higher grade, should enter at the appropriate higher standard to ensure we have performances of a similar standard, to make fair competition.

We realise this puts an onus on the performer and their teacher but trust that we can rely on their integrity.

**Grades are to be assessed as at January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026, not the date of entry.**

### **5. OFFICIAL ACCOMPANISTS:**

Performers are advised to bring their own accompanist if at all possible. An official accompanist is available in the instrumental and vocal sections and there is a charge of £5 per performance for this service (non-refundable), payable at the time of entry. For those using the official accompanist, we have introduced a requirement for pieces of Grade 6 difficulty and above, that the performer must arrange and pay for a rehearsal with the official accompanist before the festival. Contact details will be provided. The accompanist will charge a fee of £11.50 for a rehearsal of up to 20 minutes or £17.50 for a rehearsal of up to 30 minutes, depending on the difficulty of the piece to be performed. The fee is

payable directly to the accompanist at the time of the rehearsal. Failure to arrange a rehearsal may result in withdrawal of the service.

Performers playing pieces of below Grade 6 standard may request a rehearsal with the official accompanist, for which the same fees as above would apply. (We cannot guarantee availability, so an early request is recommended.)

**OWN CHOICE MUSIC for the official  
accompanist *must* be in the hands of  
June Pitts  
5 Minster Avenue, Beverley, HU17 0NL  
by  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Music should be clearly marked with the performer's name and class, and any musical markings made clear, especially speed.

Accompanists should be provided with an original copy for performance. If you ask to use the official accompanist, then you must do so or risk disqualification or an additional charge.

## **6. CHOICE OF MUSIC & TIME LIMITS:**

All music is 'own choice' and maximum time limits must be strictly adhered to. Performers must note, if they exceed the limit they may not be given a category, only an adjudication. There is no requirement to fill the whole of the allocated time. Performers may only perform any piece once in any year's festival.

If the piece was composed with an accompaniment, it must be performed with the accompaniment.

Performers may not perform a piece with which they won the previous year.

## **7. DUET & TRIO PARTNERS:**

If one partner is unable to compete due to illness or accident, a substitute partner may play or sing, provided that the Secretary has notice of this, at the latest, the day before the class is due to take place. We trust performers and teachers not to take advantage of this rule simply because one partner has not had time to learn the piece or obtain music in time.

## **8. ALTERATIONS & CANCELLATIONS:**

The organisers reserve the right to cancel any classes which have too few entries, or to re-time any classes or make any alteration as may be necessary for the smooth running of the Festival. Where a class is cancelled before programming, the entry fee will be returned. In the event of an adjudicator being unavailable the organisers will appoint an accredited substitute. Where any part of the programme has to be postponed or cancelled, we regret we will not be able to refund or credit entry fees.

## **9. REQUIREMENTS 'ON THE DAY'**

Performers should sign in 15 minutes before the assigned start time, as classes may run early.

The title and composer of each piece must be clearly written on the entry card, which should be handed in along with the music for the adjudicator, at the Registration Desk, at least 15 minutes before the start of the class

## **10. MUSIC for the ADJUDICATOR:**

Copies of each piece being performed must be supplied for the adjudicator on the day of the Festival and should be handed in at the Registration Desk at least 15 minutes before the start of the class. The copy for the adjudicator must be clearly marked with performer's name, class and ballot number (plus the title and composer of the music if this is not clear).

## **11. PHOTOCOPYING OF MUSIC:**

(a) Photocopying of sheet music is illegal unless you have written permission from the publisher, except as in (b) below.

(b) Adjudicator Copy - A person performing at the Festival may make one copy for the adjudicator provided that the performer has already purchased his/her own copy and that the copy made is retained and destroyed by the Festival

(c) Where the performer requires the services of the official accompanist, a photocopy may be sent in advance, but they should provide an original copy of the work for performance on the day.

(d) The performer and accompanist should have, with them, original copies (or proof of legal

download) of the work for the performance at the Festival.

These rules are set by The Music Publishers Association in conjunction with the British and International Federation of Festivals. Performers finding difficulty in obtaining extra copies should apply to the publishers who are usually very sympathetic in granting permission to copy for a small fee. If you are in any doubt please contact The Music Publishers Association at 103 Kingsway, London WC2B 6QX.

## 12. AWARDS:

All performers will receive an adjudication and a certificate. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place certificates will be awarded where appropriate in each class. The Festival has trophies available to award for most classes. Awards will be withheld if, in the opinion of the adjudicator, the standard of performance is not high enough.

**TROPHIES WILL NORMALLY ONLY BE AWARDED WHERE THE RECIPIENT IS IN ONE OF THE TOP 4 CATEGORIES.**

## The adjudicator's decision is final.

Communication with the Adjudicator concerning any matters relating to the competition by entrants, teachers or other interested parties is prohibited and may lead to disqualification.

## 13. RECORDING & PHOTOGRAPHY:

The Festival is bound by copyright law and licensing of performances, hence, during performance or adjudication, the taking of photographs and making of **recordings or videos**, including on a mobile phone, **are strictly prohibited**.

## 14. PROFESSIONAL STATUS:

The Festival is intended for amateurs. For the purposes of this Festival, an amateur is considered to be one who does not receive more than out of pocket expenses for services rendered in that branch of the art with which the competition is concerned. This rule does not apply to conductors. There is also an exemption for one performer in class 561.

# SINGING AND CHORAL CLASSES

**TWO SKILLS** - see classes 701, 702

**RECITAL CLASSES** - see classes 740, 741, 750.

**HYMN SINGING** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** Any hymn of the performer's choice (maximum 3 verses) from a bona fide Hymn or Chorus book.

**Class 302** 9 years & under £4.40

**Class 303** 12 years & under £4.40

**Class 305** 15 years & under £4.90

**Class 306** 18 years & under £6.50

**CHORISTER'S SOLO** (Choir Boy or Choir Girl) - Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

(Bona fide members of Church Choirs only; the name of the Church should be put on the entry form)



- Class 307** Girls 12 years & under £4.40  
**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice from the Church Choir repertoire. Not to exceed 3 minutes.
- Class 308** Boys, 12 years & under £4.40  
**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice from the Church Choir repertoire. Not to exceed 3 minutes.
- Class 309** 13 - 15 years £4.90  
**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice from the Church Choir repertoire. Not to exceed 3 minutes.
- Class 310** 16 - 18 years £6.50  
**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice from the Church Choir repertoire. Not to exceed 4 minutes.

**VOCAL SOLO** – own choice – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

- Class 313** ANY VOICE, 10 years & under £4.40  
**Test** piece: A song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 2 minutes.
- Class 314** BOYS, 11 to 14 years £4.90  
**Test** piece: A song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 3 minutes.
- Class 315** GIRLS, 11 to 14 years £4.90  
**Test** piece: A song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 3 minutes.
- Class 317** ANY VOICE 15 to 18 years £6.50  
**Test** piece: A song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**SELF ACCOMPANIED SOLO** – accompaniment by Piano or stringed instrument

- Class 318** Any Voice, 13 years and under £4.90  
**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice, not to exceed 3 minutes
- Class 319** Any Voice, Open Age £6.50  
**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice, not to exceed 5 minutes

**MUSICAL THEATRE** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** Any piece of the performer's choice from the Musical Theatre as below not sung in the Festival in previous years. Costumes, props and movement as appropriate to the piece may be used.  
 Not to exceed 4 minutes.

- Class 323** ANY VOICE, 8 - 11 years £4.40  
 Any song from a Disney Musical
- Class 324** ANY VOICE, 12 - 15 years £4.90  
 Any song from a Rogers and Hammerstein Musical
- Class 325** ANY VOICE, 16 - 18 years £6.50  
 Any song from the Musical Theatre repertoire

**STAGE MUSICAL SOLO** – Costumes, props and movement are not allowed.  
 Piano accompaniment must be used in this class.

**Class 326** ANY VOICE, 16 to 18 years £6.50  
Any Stage Musical song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**BRITISH COMPOSERS' SOLO** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** Any song of the performer's choice by a British Composer, excluding pieces belonging to the Stage Musical Repertoire and Musical Theatre, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 327** ANY VOICE, 14 years and under £4.90

**Class 328** ANY VOICE 15 to 18 years £6.50

**UNACCOMPANIED FOLK SONG**

**Test:** Any genuine folk song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 3 minutes.

**Class 332** ANY VOICE, 13 years & under £4.90

**Class 333** ANY VOICE, 14 to 18 years £6.50

**VOCAL DUET** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 342** ANY VOICE, 14 years & under £6.50

**Class 343** ANY VOICE, 18 years & under £7.70

### **CHOIR CLASSES**

Accompaniment must be used, unless otherwise stated. Instruments instead of or as well as the piano may be used, providing all instrumentalists are within the age limit. Conductors and pianists/organists may be either amateur or professional. Conductors must not sing with their choirs. **50 singers maximum**

**SCHOOL CHOIRS OWN CHOICE** (Choirs may enter for only one of classes 351, 352)

**Test:** Two contrasting pieces of the Choir's choice, not to exceed 6 minutes.

**Class 351** 11 years & under, years 4, 5 & 6 £11.00

**Class 352** 11 years & under, Open (must include some children from years 3, 2 or 1) £11.00

**SCHOOL CHOIRS' HYMN SINGING** (Choirs may enter for only one of classes 353, 354)

**Test:** Any hymn of the Choir's choice from any bona fide Hymn or Chorus book.

May be sung in unison or parts, with or without descant, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 353** 11 years & under, years 4, 5 & 6 £11.00

**Class 354** 11 years & under, Open (must include some children from years 3, 2 or 1) £11.00

**//CONTINUED – School Choirs & Singing Groups on page 15**

# Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone

The Federation and its member Festivals use the following policies and procedures to provide safer festivals for everyone:



1. A single, definitive Child Protection Policy adopted by all Federation Festivals.
2. One or more designated Festival Safeguarding Officers (FSO) appointed for each Federation Festival:  
Name: Chris Maynard Telephone: 01482 448738
3. Best practice advice in the form of Safe Working Practice leaflet, Festival Child Protection leaflet, and any other guidance produced by the Federation. This advice is supported by support and training for all Festival staff and volunteers. Guidance includes clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child.
4. Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new staff and volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending/performing at a Federation Festival
5. All Festival personnel wear a badge to identify their roles. All teachers/parents/guardians/carers are asked to report all incidents of any nature to anyone wearing a Festival badge. All reported incidents will be handled in accordance with the Safe Working Practice and Festival Child Protection best practice advice. In addition, we will ensure the availability of a quiet area / room where concerns can be expressed in private.
6. For the duration of a Festival all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils. If they are unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/pupils are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout all Festival venues, practice and changing areas that may be provided. The Festival cannot take any responsibility for property left unattended.
7. We do not permit any unauthorised photography at our Federation Festivals. For further information on what is and is not authorised, please contact the Festival Safeguarding Officer or anyone wearing a festival badge. If any child, young person or parent/carer is concerned about any photography or recording taking place at an event, please contact the Festival Safeguarding Officer, who will be pleased to discuss this matter with you.
8. Some children and adults with support needs may need help in order to take part. If this is the case, we ask the responsible teachers/parents/guardians/carers to contact the Festival Organisers prior to arrival. The Festival aims to meet these needs wherever possible but must know beforehand in order to prepare support – or to advise that help cannot be provided on this occasion.
9. The Festival's Child Protection Policy and its approach to Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone are published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and Website. By completing and signing the entry form all parents / guardians / carers and teachers of entrants under 18 (or adults of any age who may require additional support) confirm that they give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the entrants to take part in the Festival. Without consent the entry to the Festival cannot be accepted.



Payment is being made by (please indicate with **X**):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bank transfer to account: CMCMF (business account – full name = Cottingham Methodist Church Musical Festival Fund); sort code: 52-21-52; account number: 08805105. Please use performer's name as reference
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheque payable to CMCMF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash

Entry cards and timings will be sent by post nearer the festival date. You do not need to send a separate envelope

The above-named performer(s) (or their parent/guardian, if under 18) give consent to be photographed by the official photographer for publicity purposes.	<b>YES / NO</b>
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**By signing this form, I confirm that for all performers under the age of 18 (or vulnerable adults of any age), I give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the performers to take part in the Festival.**

(Signed)	Date:
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Adult Performer (Y / N); Teacher (Y / N); Parent (Y / N); Guardian (Y / N) (please indicate)

Email:	Phone:
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***Please send the completed form to: Christopher Moll, 10 The Paddock, Cottingham, HU16 4RA or scan/photograph it and send as an email attachment to: moll\_cmc@live.co.uk***  
***Downloadable versions of the Entry Form and Teachers' Form for multiple entries will be available from late July at [www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/musical-festival](http://www.cottingham-methodist.org.uk/musical-festival)***

In accordance with GDPR regulations, personal details given on this form will be held securely in our database and used only in conjunction with the Festival. No information will be shared with any other organisation.

# Child Protection Policy Statement

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech (BIFF) works for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for children and young people each year.



The Federation and our member Festivals are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals. It has been drawn up on the basis of relevant law and guidance that seeks to protect children and young people, and its purpose is to set out the overarching principles that guide our approach.

## **We recognise that:**

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

## **The purpose of the policy:**

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm

## **We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:**

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a Federation Head of Safeguarding and, for each festival, at least one Festival Safeguarding Officer
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
- working within the legislation and guidance that specifically addresses the needs of young performers (specifically, the Children and Young People Acts 1933 and 1963, and the Children (Performance and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014
- adopting a safe and balanced approach to the issue of creating and using photography and images of children and young people at our festivals and in our communications
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and safe working practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The Federation will review this policy each year in line with NSPCC guidance or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance.

**SCHOOL CHOIRS' UNACCOMPANIED SINGING** (Choirs may enter for only one of classes 355, 356)

**Test:** One piece of the Choir's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 355** 11 years & under, years 4, 5 & 6 £11.00

**Class 356** 11 years & under, Open (must include some children from years 3, 2 or 1) £11.00

**SCHOOL SINGING GROUPS Any Style**

**Class 357** 11 years & under, years 4, 5 & 6 £11.00

**Test:** A programme of contrasting music of the group's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 358** 11 years & under, Open (must include some children from years 3, 2 or 1) £11.00

**Test:** A programme of contrasting music of the group's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 359** Choir Debut, 11 years & under, (for schools and/or choir leaders who have not performed at the Festival in the last 5 years) £11.00

**Test:** A programme of contrasting music of the group's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**JUNIOR CHOIRS** (*other than schools*)

**Class 361** HYMN SINGING, 18 years & under £11.00

**Test:** Any hymn of the Choir's choice. A descant either printed or original may be used, not to exceed 6 minutes.

**Class 362** JUNIOR CHOIR RECITAL 18 years & under £13.00

**Test:** A programme of music of the Choir's choice, the overall time not to exceed 8 mins.

**CHURCH MUSIC GROUP/CHOIR**

**Class 363** GROUP/CHOIR (singers and instrumentalists), to include at least 4 singers/instrumentalists & 4 instruments £13.00

**Test:** Two contrasting pieces of the group's choice in the modern church idiom, not to exceed 8 minutes.

**Class 364** CHURCH CHOIR £13.00

**Test:** Two contrasting pieces of the group's choice, not to exceed 8 minutes; one piece may be unaccompanied

**CHOIRS**

**Class 370** ADULT CHOIR £13.00

**Test:** A programme of music of the Choir's choice, not to exceed 8 minutes.

**Class 371** CHOIR, mixed age - must include both adults and under-16s £13.00

**Test:** A programme of music of the Choir's choice, not to exceed 8 minutes.

**SINGING GROUPS**, OPEN, any combination of voices

**Class 378 SONGS FROM THE SHOWS** £13.00

**Test:** Two contrasting pieces of the Choir's choice, not to exceed 8 minutes.

**Class 379 ANY STYLE** £13.00

**Test:** A programme of contrasting music of the group's choice, not to exceed 8 minutes.

**ADULT CLASSES – ANY VOICE 18 years & over**

The fee for each of these classes is **£8.90**.-Accompaniment must be by piano except where stated.

Please see the note on page 4 regarding the reduction in classes.

**Class 401 DRAWING ROOM BALLAD**

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice from this repertoire, not to exceed 4 mins.

**Class 404 OPERA SOLO**

**Test:** Any song from the opera repertoire (not including G & S), not to exceed 4 mins.

**Class 406 UNACCOMPANIED FOLK SONG**

**Test:** Any genuine folk song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 3 mins.

**Class 407 STAGE MUSICAL SOLO (inc. Gilbert & Sullivan and Light Opera)**

**Test:** Any Stage Musical song (including Gilbert & Sullivan and Light Opera) of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 min.

**Class 410 SPIRITUAL**

**Test:** Any genuine Spiritual of the performer's choice, may be sung unaccompanied or be accompanied by piano or other solo instrument; not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 411 DUET**

**Test:** Any duet of the performers' choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**Class 412 OWN CHOICE SOLO, ANY VOICE**

**Test:** Any song of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**SPREAD THE WORD!**

If you know anyone who sings or plays and who might be interested in performing at the festival, please pass on a copy of the syllabus or the link to our website. We now have a number of classes across the piano, instrumental and singing sections where adults can be involved, including in combination with others of different ages.

Have you noticed that some of our classes are non-competitive?



## **INSTRUMENTAL CLASSES**

Piano accompaniment must be used except where stated.

**TWO SKILLS** - see classes 701, 702

**RECITAL CLASSES** - see classes 720, 721, 750.

**RECORDER SOLO** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Class 500** Descant Recorder, 9 years & under £4.40

**Test:** One piece of the performers own choice not to exceed 4 minutes

**Class 501** Descant Recorder, 11 years & under £4.40

**Test:** One piece of the performers own choice not to exceed 4 minutes

**Class 502** Descant Recorder, 12 to 14 years £4.90

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**RECORDER ENSEMBLE** – The Piano must NOT be used in these classes

A minimum of 4, and maximum of 12 players allowed in these classes

**Test:** A programme of contrasting pieces of music of the group's choice.

**Class 504** 11 Years & under £11.00

Not to exceed 5 minutes

**Class 505** 14 Years & under £11.00

Not to exceed 6 minutes

**Class 506** Open £13.00

Not to exceed 8 minutes

**RECORDER DUET** – The Piano must NOT be used in these classes

**Class 507** 12 years & under £6.50

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice, not to exceed 2 minutes.

**Class 508** 13 to 15 years £7.20

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.

**WOODWIND SOLO** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice.

<b>Class 515</b>	11 years & under Not to exceed 3 minutes.	£4.40
<b>Class 516</b>	14 years & under Not to exceed 4 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 517</b>	15 to 18 years Not to exceed 6 minutes.	£6.50
<b>Class 518</b>	Open Age Not to exceed 7 minutes.	£7.70

**UNACCOMPANIED WOODWIND SOLO**

<b>Class 519</b>	Open Age	£7.70
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**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice, not to exceed 5 minutes.

**STRING SOLO (Bowed Instruments)** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice.

<b>Class 520</b>	10 years & under Not to exceed 2 minutes.	£4.40
<b>Class 521</b>	11 & 12 years Not to exceed 4 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 522</b>	13 & 14 years Not to exceed 5 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 523</b>	15 to 18 years Not to exceed 7 minutes.	£6.50
<b>Class 524</b>	Open Age Not to exceed 7 minutes.	£7.70

**UNACCOMPANIED STRING SOLO (Bowed Instruments)**

<b>Class 525</b>	Open Age	£7.70
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**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice, not to exceed 5 minutes.

**STRING GROUP (Bowed Instruments)** – The Piano must NOT be used in these classes

**Test:** One or two pieces of music of the group's choice.

A minimum of 3, maximum of 8 players allowed.

<b>Class 526</b>	11 years & under Not to exceed 4 minutes	£11.00
<b>Class 527</b>	14 years & under Not to exceed 6 minutes	£11.00
<b>Class 528</b>	18 years & under	£13.00

Not to exceed 8 minutes

**INSTRUMENTAL DUET** – The Piano must NOT be used in these classes

**Test:** One or two pieces of the performers' choice.

<b>Class 529</b>	11 years & under Not to exceed 2 minutes	£6.50
<b>Class 530</b>	13 years & under Not to exceed 3 minutes	£6.50
<b>Class 531</b>	18 years & under Not to exceed 4 minutes	£8.80
<b>Class 532</b>	Open age Not to exceed 5 minutes	£8.80
<b>Class 533</b>	TEACHER & PUPIL Only the pupil will be adjudicated. Pupil to have been learning for up to 2 years. Not to exceed 2 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 534</b>	TEACHER & PUPIL Only the pupil will be adjudicated. 11 years and under. Not to exceed 2 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 535</b>	TEACHER & PUPIL Only the pupil will be adjudicated. 14 years and under. Not to exceed 3 minutes.	£6.50

**INSTRUMENT & PIANO DUET** – Any instrument plus the piano; both to be adjudicated

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice.

<b>Class 536</b>	13 years & under Not to exceed 3 minutes	£6.50
<b>Class 537</b>	18 years & under Not to exceed 8 minutes	£8.80
<b>Class 538</b>	Open age Not to exceed 8 minutes	£8.80

**INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE** – May include the piano or keyboard

**Test:** One or two pieces of the performers' choice.

A minimum of 3, maximum of 8 players allowed. The age restriction applies to all players

<b>Class 539</b>	11 years & under Not to exceed 4 minutes	£11.00
<b>Class 540</b>	14 years & under Not to exceed 6 minutes	£11.00
<b>Class 541</b>	18 years & under Not to exceed 8 minutes	£13.00

**BRASS SOLO** – Piano accompaniment must be used in these classes.

<b>Class 542</b> 11 years & under	£4.40
<b>Test:</b> <u>One piece</u> of the performer's choice. Not to exceed 3 minutes	
<b>Class 543</b> 14 years & under	£4.90
<b>Test:</b> <u>One piece</u> of the performer's choice. Not to exceed 4 minutes	
<b>Class 544</b> Open age	£7.70
<b>Test:</b> <u>One piece</u> of the performer's choice. Not to exceed 6 minutes	

**HARP CLASSES** – The Piano must NOT be used in these classes.

\*Grades are assessed as at January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026, not the date of entry.

<b>Class 550</b> SOLO, for those up to grade 4*	£4.90
<b>Test:</b> One or two pieces of the performer's choice, not to exceed 4 minutes.	
<b>Class 551</b> SOLO, for those with grade 4 or above*	£5.90
<b>Test:</b> One piece of the performer's choice, not to exceed 7 minutes.	
<b>Class 552</b> ENSEMBLE, Open	£13.00
<b>Test:</b> One or two pieces of the performers' choice, not to exceed 8 minutes, minimum of 2 players.	
<b>Class 553</b> DUET or TRIO, Open	£8.80
<b>Test:</b> One or two pieces of the performers' choice, not to exceed 5 minutes.	

**'FAMILY MEMBERS' INSTRUMENTAL DUET** – any instrument/piano, in any combination

<b>Class 560</b> 18 years and under, eg. siblings, cousins	£8.80
Not to exceed 8 minutes	
<b>Class 561</b> Open, non-competitive class, adjudication but no marks given	£8.80
Not to exceed 8 minutes	
<i>(NB. In this class, one duet member may have professional status.)</i>	

## **PIANOFORTE CLASSES**

NOTE - Grades are assessed as at January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026, not the date of entry.

Before choosing which class to enter, please read Rule 4 carefully to ensure you choose the correct grade.

*Please check compliance with the rules, especially 4, 6 and 14.*

**TWO SKILLS** - see classes 701, 702.

**RECITAL CLASSES** - see classes 730, 731, 750.

### **PIANO SOLO CLASSES**

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice, excluding sonatas/sonatinas, not being played by the performer in any other class.

In classes 610, 611 and 612, the maximum standard allowed is Grade 1

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| <b>Class 610</b> | For those pre-Grade 1 who began having lessons after 15 July 2025 non-competitive class – adjudication but no marks given<br>Not to exceed 2 minutes.              | £4.40 |
| <b>Class 611</b> | For those pre-Grade 1 who began having lessons between 15 Jan and 15 July 2025 non-competitive class – adjudication but no marks given<br>Not to exceed 2 minutes. | £4.40 |
| <b>Class 612</b> | For those pre-Grade 1 who began having lessons before 15 Jan 2025 non-competitive class – adjudication but no marks given<br>Not to exceed 2 minutes.              | £4.40 |
| <b>Class 613</b> | For those with Grade 1<br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.   | £4.40 |
| <b>Class 614</b> | For those with Grade 2<br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.   | £4.40 |
| <b>Class 615</b> | For those with Grade 3<br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.   | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 616</b> | For those with Grade 4<br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.   | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 617</b> | For those with Grade 5<br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.   | £6.50 |
| <b>Class 618</b> | For those with Grade 6<br>Not to exceed 6 minutes.   | £6.50 |
| <b>Class 619</b> | For those with Grade 7<br>Not to exceed 7 minutes.   | £7.70 |
| <b>Class 620</b> | For those with Grade 8<br>Not to exceed 8 minutes.   | £7.70 |

### **SONATINA/SONATA SOLO CLASSES**

**Test:** Any movement from a sonatina or sonata of the performer's choice

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|------------------|--|-------|
| <b>Class 621</b> | For those up to grade 4<br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.          | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 622</b> | For those with Grades 5 or 6<br>Not to exceed 5 minutes.     | £6.50 |
| <b>Class 623</b> | For those with grade 7 and above<br>Not to exceed 8 minutes. | £7.70 |

### **JAZZ, RAGTIME OR ANY MODERN PIECE SOLO**

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice in Jazz, Ragtime or Modern idiom.

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| <b>Class 624</b> | For those up to grade 3<br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.          | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 625</b> | For those with grades 4 or 5<br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.     | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 626</b> | For those with grade 6 and above<br>Not to exceed 5 minutes. | £6.50 |

**ADULT PIANO SOLO:** non-competitive class – adjudication but no marks given.

**Test:** One piece of the performer's choice

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|------------------|--|-------|
| <b>Class 627</b> | Up to and including Grade 5 standard<br>Not to exceed 5 minutes. | £8.90 |
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**PIANO & INSTRUMENT DUET** – see classes 536-538  
**'FAMILY MEMBERS' DUET** - see classes 560 and 561

### **PIANO DUET CLASSES**

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice.

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| <b>Class 636</b> | For those up to and including grade 1<br>Not to exceed 2 minutes.   | £5.40 |
| <b>Class 637</b> | For those up to grade 4<br>Not to exceed 3 minutes.                 | £6.50 |
| <b>Class 638</b> | For those up to grade 6<br>Not to exceed 4 minutes.                 | £7.70 |
| <b>Class 639</b> | For those with grades 7 and above<br>Not to exceed 5 minutes.       | £8.80 |
| <b>Class 640</b> | PARENT & CHILD<br>Both will be adjudicated. Not to exceed 4 minutes | £7.20 |

<b>Class 641</b>	<b>TEACHER &amp; PUPIL</b> Only the pupil will be adjudicated. Pupil to have been learning for up to 2 years. Not to exceed 4 minutes.	£4.90
<b>Class 642</b>	<b>TEACHER &amp; PUPIL</b> Only the pupil will be adjudicated. Pupil to have been learning for 2 -4 years. Not to exceed 4 minutes.	£5.40
<b>Class 643</b>	<b>TEACHER &amp; PUPIL</b> Only the pupil will be adjudicated. Pupil to have been learning for more than 4 years. Not to exceed 5 minutes.	£6.50
<b>Class 644</b>	<b>ADULT &amp; CHILD-</b> (not already covered by other classes) Both will be adjudicated. Not to exceed 6 minutes.	£7.20

### **PIANO TRIO, (one piano, six hands)**

**Test:** One piece of the performers' choice

<b>Class 650</b>	For performers up to grade 4 Not to exceed 3 minutes.	£4.50
<b>Class 651</b>	For performers of grade 5 and above Not to exceed 5 minutes.	£4.50
<b>Class 652</b>	Open age, any grade One piece of the performers' choice playing at a suitable level. Not to exceed 6 minutes.	£4.50
<b>Class 653</b>	<b>ADULT PIANO DUET <u>OR</u> TRIO*</b> (one piano, four or six hands) non-competitive class, adjudication but no marks given. One piece of the performers' choice. Not to exceed 6 minutes. * a trio may include up to one player who is under 18, to make a viable group.	£11.00

### **TWO SKILLS\***

Two different instruments (option including the voice), requiring different techniques, to be played/sung separately by one performer i.e. one performer – two instruments. The performer may perform accompanied or unaccompanied repertoire (see Rule 6).  
**Test:** For each instrument one piece not being played in any other class.

<b>Class 701</b>	13 years and under Not to exceed 8 minutes, any one piece not to exceed 5 minutes.	£6.50
<b>Class 702</b>	14 – 18 years Not to exceed 10 minutes, any one piece not to exceed 6 minutes.	£9.90

\* See note on page 3 regarding scheduling. (Festival Dates).

### **VOLUNTEERS and HELPERS**

We are extremely grateful to all the kind people who help at the festival each year, particularly those who sit at the reception desk issuing tickets and programmes and collecting in the music – it makes such a difference to the smooth running of the Festival. If you would like to be involved and have a little time to offer over the Festival weekends, do please get in touch.

## **RECITAL CLASSES**

Before choosing which class to enter, please read Rule 5 carefully!

Grades are assessed as at January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026.

**Test:** A short programme of two or more contrasting pieces not being performed in any other class.

<b>Class 720</b>	For String/Brass/Woodwind instrumentalists with grades 4 or 5 Not to exceed 8 minutes, any one piece not to exceed 5 minutes.	£8.20
<b>Class 721</b>	For String/Brass/Woodwind instrumentalists with grade 6 and above Not to exceed 12 minutes.	£9.80
<b>Class 730</b>	For Pianists with grades 4 or 5 Not to exceed 8 minutes, any one piece not to exceed 5 minutes.	£8.20
<b>Class 731</b>	For Pianists with grade 6 and above Not to exceed 12 minutes.	£9.80
<b>Class 740</b>	For Singers with grades 4 or 5 Not to exceed 8 minutes, any one piece not to exceed 5 minutes.	£8.20
<b>Class 741</b>	For Singers with grade 6 and above Not to exceed 12 minutes.	£9.80
<b>Class 750</b>	For Pianists/Instrumentalists/Singers with grade 7 and above* A programme by a single composer, not to exceed 8 minutes.	£8.20

\* See note on page 3 regarding scheduling (Festival Dates).

## **FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL**

The Friends' Association is a valuable part of the Festival and the income from it helps young people in their musical education. Awards are made at the Celebration Concert. Previous recipients have used the money in a variety of ways. It has been spent on music, tuition fees, and has been put towards new musical instruments.

The annual subscription fee is £15 (minimum) which gives admission to all sessions of the Festival and a copy of the programme.

**If YOU wish to join the Friends** please contact Elaine Moll, 10 The Paddock, Cottingham HU16 4RA, Tel 876747, [emoll10@hotmail.com](mailto:emoll10@hotmail.com), or speak to one of the Stewards

## **TROPHIES from the 2025 Festival**

If you (or your pupils) currently have a trophy at home, please look out for an email explaining where and when to return it. We need them to be returned by the end of **November**. If you intend to have the trophy engraved, please remember to do that in good time – no later than October!