



14 January 2024

Dear Students/Parents/Carers,

We are very excited to present the third annual Hinchingsbrooke Music Festival!

This will be a competitive festival of solo and ensemble performing, which is open to anyone who is able to play an instrument or sing from about Grade 1 upwards. All year groups are welcome and encouraged to participate, as the festival forms part of the school's Interhouse programme, with trophy points awarded for each entry.

We will be welcoming three visiting adjudicators for the festival:

1. Mrs Stephanie Reeve (adjudicating Class A, B and the Grand Final) - *Stephanie studied clarinet at Trinity College of Music, winning prizes for chamber music. She has performed across the southeast as a soloist and chamber musician for music clubs, with numerous orchestras and for musical theatre. Now established in Cambridge Stephanie teaches locally and is in demand as a chamber music coach for Benslow Music Trust, the Clarinet & Saxophone Society of Great Britain, and the ACE Foundation. She performs regularly with orchestras and smaller ensembles across Cambridgeshire. Stephanie is librarian for the Clarinet & Saxophone Society, and is a feature writer and reviewer for the magazine.*
2. Mrs Leanne Singh-Levett (adjudicating Class C, D and the Grand Final, and accompanying others) - *Leanne is currently working at English National Opera as the 2022-23 Music Staff Fellow. Leanne is an accomplished pianist with a passion for collaborating with classical singers and choirs. In recent years she has also developed her experience preparing and coaching singers: her first production as Chorusmaster was Le nozze di Figaro at the Royal College of Music, directed by Sir Thomas Allen and conducted by Michael Rosewell (Autumn 2018). Following this successful debut, she was asked to prepare the chorus for Offenbach's Robinson Crusoe, and then for Holst's The Planets in the Queen Elizabeth Hall with Andrew Gourlay (July 2019).*
3. Mr Robert Burton (adjudicating Class E, F and the Grand Final) – *Ex-Hinchingsbrooke student Rob Burton won the Woodwind Category Final of BBC Young Musician 2018 and went on to secure a place in the Grand Final at Birmingham's Symphony Hall, where he performed as concerto soloist with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Highlights since then include appearances with some of the UK's leading orchestras, such as Britten Sinfonia and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra as well as at prestigious international festivals, including Leicester, Cheltenham, Harrogate, and Oundle International Festivals. Featured as one of Classic FM's "Stars of Tomorrow", he has performed in prestigious London venues, namely Wigmore Hall, St. John's Smith Square, St. James' Piccadilly, Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle.*



The Hinchingsbrooke Music Festival 2024 will be held in the Music Department (201) or the PAC, across 6 different classes, as follows:

Class Name	Standard* & Instrument	Date	Time	Venue
Class A	Grades 1-3, piano	Monday 11 March	9.00am	Music Dept
Class B	Grades 4-6, piano	Monday 11 March	11.20am	Music Dept
Class C	Grades 1-3, any instrument (not piano)	Tuesday 12 March	9.00am	Music Dept
Class D	Grades 4-6, any instrument (not piano)	Tuesday 12 March	11.20am	Music Dept
Class E	Grade 7+, any instrument	Wednesday 13 March	9.00am	PAC
Class F	+Ensemble Class	Wednesday 13 March	11.20am	PAC

**If you don't take grades, that is fine. Your teacher should be able to let you know which class would be most suitable for you. If you're still unsure, please speak to a member of the Music Department.*

You will need to prepare one piece, lasting no more than 4 minutes in total (for Class E, two pieces are allowed, no more than 12 minutes in total). This can be any style but **must have a score** so that the adjudicators can follow a copy of your music as you play.

+New for 2024 - Ensemble Class

Your performance may be in any style, from 2-8 performers. So piano duets, vocal groups, string quartets, jazz/rock/pop bands, folk groups – grab your friends and start practicing! (Band Nights are on Thursdays after school in the Music Department)

Accompanist/Backing Tracks

If you require an accompanist, please let a member of the Music Department know in addition to filling out the form below. You will need a rehearsal with your accompanist in advance of your class.

If you want to play along to a backing track, that is fine, but we will need a copy of your track in advance of the Music Festival.

Awards

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awarded in each class, receiving the following:

1st place Music pin, Winner's Certificate and trophy points

2nd place Music pin, 2nd place certificate and trophy points

3rd place Music pin, 3rd place certificate and trophy points

Every other entrant will receive a certificate of entry and trophy points.



HBK Music Festival

The 'top 3' from each class will then be invited to perform in a **Finalist's Concert at 7pm on Wednesday 13 March**, in the PAC. Parents and other family members/friends will be invited to this. The 'Hinchingsbrooke Musician of the Year 2024' will be announced at the concert and receive the Hinchingsbrooke Music Festival trophy.

If you would like to participate in the Hinchingsbrooke Music Festival 2024, please carefully fill out the form below and return to the Music Department no later than Friday 16th February. We will be in touch with more details / requirements after this date. Happy practicing, and good luck!!

Mr W Cooke

Head of Music

wcooke@hbk.acesmat.uk

kcooke@hbk.acesmat.uk

Dear Mr Cooke,

I would like to participate in the Hinchingsbrooke Music Festival 2024.

Please give this form to your Music teacher, or hand in at the Music Department Office, no later than Friday 16th February 2024.

Name	
Form	
Solo Class name (A, B, C, D, E) <i>If competing in more than one class, please make this clear.</i>	
Ensemble Class? <i>Please give the name(s) of the other students involved.</i>	
Instrument	
Do you require an accompanist?	
Will you be using a backing track?	
Student signature	
Parent/carer signature	