

Lancashire
music
service

County Ensembles

Membership Information



Lancashire's County Ensembles

Bringing together talented young musicians from across Lancashire

For over 50 years, generations of young people from across Lancashire have been making music together in our county ensembles. Building on this long history, the six ensembles we have today are vibrant, aspirational and exciting to be part of. They meet the needs of young musicians in young musicians today.

Lancashire Music Services County Ensembles enable committed young musicians to take their music making to an advanced level, working alongside professional directors and tutors. The opportunity to be part of an ensemble is an important achievement and something that people remember for the rest of their lives. These young people are following the path of many musicians before them, but they are also shaping our county's musical future and inspiring the next generation.

I look forward to welcoming you at our rehearsals and concerts.

Cath Sewell
Regional Manager (County Ensembles)

Ensembles

Lancashire Youth Brass Band

Saturday 10am – 3.30pm, St Michael's C.E. High School, Astley Rd, Chorley PR7 1RR
Minimum Standard: Grade 4 (or equivalent)
Musical Director: Helen Minshall 07825 431435

Lancashire Youth Concert Band

Saturday 10am – 3.30pm, Lostock Hall Academy, Todd Lane North, Lostock Hall PR5 5UR
Minimum Standard: Grade 5 or equivalent
Musical Director: Gayle Coleman 07887 830991

Lancashire Youth Jazz Orchestra

Saturday 10am – 3.30pm, Archbishop Temple School, St Vincents Rd, Fulwood Preston PR2 8RA
Minimum Standard: Grade 6 or equivalent
Musical Director: Paul Rigby 07825 583955

Lancashire Schools Jazz Orchestra

Saturday 10am – 3.30pm, Archbishop Temple School, St Vincents Rd, Fulwood Preston PR2 8RA
Minimum Standard: Grade 4 or equivalent
Musical Director: Nikki Greig 07825 431467

Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra

Sunday 10am – 3.30pm, Lostock Hall Academy, Todd Lane North, Lostock Hall PR5 5UR
Minimum Standard: Grade 5 (strings Grade 4) or equivalent
Musical Director: Helen Harrison 07825 584698

Lancashire Schools Symphony Orchestra

Sunday 10am – 3.30pm, Lostock Hall Academy, Todd Lane North, Lostock Hall PR5 5UR
Minimum Standard: Grade 4 (strings Grade 3) or equivalent
Musical Director: Paul Swannell 07825 431459



Programme of Activities



Rehearsals take place 16 times over the academic year. They are usually every fortnight for a full day, with breaks over the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays. The length of the rehearsal gives time for the group to develop as an ensemble, with the morning often used for smaller sectional rehearsals.

Performances take place throughout the year and they are often arranged in partnership with other County Ensembles, community organisations and charities, festivals, professional ensembles, schools, and our Regional Music Centres. When appropriate, our County Ensembles have also taken part in festivals and competitions such as Music for Youth and National Youth Brass Band Championships.

Residential Courses are arranged once per year for each ensemble. These are an important opportunity for the ensemble's musical and social development and are a highlight of the year for many members.

Tours, both in the UK and further afield, are an exciting part of being in a county ensemble and are arranged in consultation with parents and ensemble members. As well as performances, they often include the chance to meet other young musicians, see concerts and take part in other activities.

Workshops are one off opportunities which enable county ensemble members to work with a range of tutors and professional musicians to further develop their musical skills and creativity. County Ensemble members also take part in workshops designed to inspire younger musicians in schools and music centres.

Youth Leadership and Consultation

County Ensembles are run for the benefit of the young people who take part and it is vital that members feel a sense of ownership of their ensemble. We are committed to asking for feedback and consulting members, involving them in decisions we make.

Commitment

Being a member of a County Ensemble is a fantastic opportunity to be part of a team – as a musician, you rely on others in your ensemble and they rely on you. We therefore ask that all members are committed to attending all rehearsals, courses and concerts. We recognise that there is a lot of pressure on students in school years 11, 12 and 13 and do our best to limit activities in the exam period.



FAQs

How do I join?

Membership is by audition (if your child hasn't already auditioned please contact Ann Connal). Following the offer of a place, we need your membership form and medical form returned before you attend a rehearsal. You can do this by applying online at www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk/enrol

How much does it cost?

We charge £115 per year to be a member of a County Ensemble. This covers approximately 30% of the cost of the place, with the majority of the remainder subsidised through our Music Hub funding from Arts Council England. We charge £160 for our residential courses and the cost of tours varies.

Is there any help available with fees?

For further details on fee exemptions see terms and conditions on page 6. Families with three children in County Ensembles, will receive third child's membership free.

You can also apply for help with fees to organisations such as Awards for Young Musicians www.a-y-m.org or Future Talent www.futuretalent.org

Where can I find the rehearsal and concert dates?

These will be emailed to you before the start of term and hard copies will be available at the first rehearsal. They can also be found at www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk Dates are occasionally changed or added throughout the year and you will be notified of these changes at rehearsals and by email. Please respond promptly to emails asking about availability.

What if my child can't come to a rehearsal or event?

We do expect members to be committed to all rehearsals and concerts but, if absence is unavoidable, please give us as much notice as possible. Please email Ann Connal anytime up to 4pm on the Friday before the rehearsal or event, after this time please text the Musical Director as well as emailing Ann.

What happens at lunch and break time?

Members can eat packed lunches at the rehearsal venue. Some ensembles also run a tuck shop. Lunch and break times are supervised by Lancashire Music Service staff. Members aged under 18 are not allowed off site without written permission from their parent/carer.

What if my child doesn't have the right instrument?

Most members of County Ensembles play their own instrument but Lancashire Music Service does have instruments available to loan if these are required. Members may also be given the opportunity to play more unusual instruments (such as bass clarinet, soprano saxophone, cor anglais, bass trombone, piccolo) and these are also available on loan.

Can parents volunteer to help out?

Yes! We often need parents to help out at concerts and events. Another way to help is to arrange to share lifts with someone you know is travelling from your area. For more information about how you can help, please contact Ann Connal.

How do I find out about other musical opportunities for my child?

We have a parents/carers email newsletter to keep you up to date with musical opportunities, advice and recommendations to support your child's musical development.

We will also occasionally email directly with information about Lancashire Music Hub projects. In line with the 2018 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) law we need your express permission to contact about these additional opportunities. You can give your consent on the attached application form or online.

You can always change your mind or amend your preferences at any time in the future.

You can also sign up to our newsletter at www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk/site/#newsletter
To find out more about GDPR, please read more at the official ICO website: www.ico.org.uk

Terms and Conditions

Health and Safety/Safeguarding

Lancashire Music Service Staff will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all County Ensemble students and visitors.

All Lancashire Music Service Staff are appropriately qualified and appointed in line with the Safer Recruitment guidelines after interview, audition, medical and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) enhanced checks. All staff are updated with new developments through a programme of in service training, including Child Protection, Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), e-learning for Sexual Exploitation, Disqualification by Association, Information Governance and Health and Safety.

Any visiting adults without a Lancashire DBS will be supervised by LMS staff.

1. Lancashire Music Service staff will be responsible for the Health and Safety of students and adults whilst on the premises and a qualified first aider will be in attendance at each rehearsal/event (Lancashire Music Service staff member)
2. The safety of students travelling to and from the rehearsals/events is the responsibility of the Parent/Carer.
3. In the interests of safeguarding, it is requested that adults who are on the premises whilst accompanying pupils to and from instrumental lessons and ensembles restrict their movement to a designated area (check with the Musical Director).
4. Parents/Carers are asked to ensure their child understands that students **MUST NOT LEAVE THE PREMISES DURING BREAKS AND LUNCHTIMES.**
5. The County Ensembles use the school/venue by permission of the head teacher/centre manager. It is therefore essential that every student exhibits only the highest standard of personal conduct whilst on the premises. We reserve the right to withdraw a student from an activity in the event of unacceptable behaviour.
6. Students must enter the venue by the main entrance only and sign the attendance register when entering and leaving the premises.

7. All decisions and instructions from staff should be respected and followed at all times. We reserve the right to withdraw a student from an activity in the event of unacceptable behaviour.
8. All students and adults who use the premises are urged to acquaint themselves thoroughly with the emergency procedures in case of fire. These instructions are prominently displayed on walls.
9. It is requested that when parents/carers and students drive cars into School/College grounds they do so with extreme care and at their own risk.
10. The Music Service accepts no responsibility for the security of personal belongings

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Billing Information

PLEASE WAIT FOR AN INVOICE BEFORE MAKING ANY PAYMENTS

1. County Ensembles Membership fees are payable annually at the start of a new academic year (non refundable). Each County Ensemble member is entitled to receive FREE Music Centre Ensemble activities at one Music Centre.

CHARGES £115 per annum
September 2019 - July 2020
Pro rata £75 January 2020 - July 2020
Pro rata £35 April 2020 - July 2020

Exemption from County Membership Fees

- Families with three children or more in the county ensembles will receive Third Family membership FREE.

To claim you must be in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit. Proof of exemption will be required.

2. County Hall Income and Debt Management Team will issue an invoice for membership fees once per annum and when invoices are raised they are due for immediate payment. If payment is not received /a repayment plan has not been set up within 30 days of the date on your invoice we will withdraw your child from all County Ensembles Activities. You will still be liable for payments for duration of the current membership.
3. County Ensembles Membership Fees will be automatically renewed at the start of the new academic year unless we receive notification requesting to withdraw from membership.
4. Cancellation Policy – If you wish to withdraw your child from County Ensembles Activities, please notify Ann Connal in writing by emailing: **Ann.Connal@lancashire.gov.uk** or post to: Lancashire Music Service, The Woodlands Centre, Southport Road, CHORLEY, Lancashire PR7 1QR

How do I contact the Music Service?

For most day to day queries the best person to contact is Ann Connal who looks after the administration for all County Ensembles

Email: ann.connal@lancashire.gov.uk
Tel: 01257 517108.

You can contact the Musical Director for your ensemble by phone (see page 2).
The Lancashire Music Service Senior Manager responsible for County Ensembles is Cath Sewell
Email: cath.sewell@lancashire.gov.uk
Tel: 01257 517111.



Music Centres

Opportunities to learn, play and perform together

Our network of centres across Lancashire provides **regular, after-school opportunities for young musicians of all levels of experience to play together in bands and ensembles**, offering an ideal progression route from Whole Class Ensemble Tuition alongside opportunities for more advanced students. We also offer **group and individual tuition** at all of our centres.



Lancaster (Thursday) - Lancaster Royal Grammar School, East Road, Lancaster LA1 3EF
Head of Lancaster Music Centre - David Shooter 07887 830989

Poulton (Wednesday) - Hodgson School, Moorland Road, Poulton-le-Fylde FY6 7EU
Head of Poulton Music Centre - Rachel Hughes 07500 881431
rachel.hughes@lancashire.gov.uk

Lytham (Thursday) - Lytham St Annes Technology and Performing Arts College, Worsley Road, Lytham St Annes FY8 4DG
St Bede's Lytham (Tuesday) - St Bede's Catholic High School, Talbot Road, Lytham FY8 4JL
Head of Lytham Music Centres - Gary Fox 07887 830990
gary.fox@lancashire.gov.uk

Kirkham (Monday) - Kirkham and Wesham Primary School, Nelson Street, Kirkham, Preston PR4 2JP
Head of Kirkham Music Centre - Julie Rayton 07824 434282

Preston (Tuesday and Thursday) - Fulwood Academy, Black Bull Lane, Preston PR2 9YR
Head of Preston Music Centre - Chris Cull 07850 025785

Ormskirk (Wednesday) - Ormskirk School, Wigan Road, Ormskirk L39 2AT
Head of Ormskirk Music Centre - Chris Cull 07850 025785

Chorley (Monday) - Southlands School, Clover Road, Chorley PR7 2NJ
Head of Chorley Music Centre - Gayle Coleman 07887 830991

Burnley (Tuesday) - Shuttleworth College, Burnley Road, Padiham BB12 8ST
Head of Burnley Music Centre - Abbey Blackledge 07825 755499

Pendle (Thursday) - Pendle Vale College, Oxford Road, Nelson BB9 8JG
Head of Pendle Music Centre - David Parkins 07887 830994

For up to date details and times of activities at each centre please visit www.lancashiremusicclub.co.uk or contact the Head of Centre.

For more details about Music Centres please contact Pauline Franic (administration) **01257 517113**
pauline.franic@lancashire.gov.uk

Costs

Annual Membership
Access to all ensembles £60

Tuition Charges

Small Group (Max 4 pupils per group)	£6.50 p/lesson
20 minute individual	£10.50 p/lesson
30 minute individual	£12.50 p/lesson
40 minute individual	£16.50 p/lesson



The home for musical learning in Lancashire

Lancashire Music Hub (LMH) is a group of **diverse partner organisations working together** to develop musical learning opportunities for children and young people in the county. The Hub aims to make it easy for young people, teachers, musicians, schools and the wider community to work together and find great ways to make music whilst developing their individual skills and talents.

The Hub's lead organisation is Lancashire Music Service, working with core partners More Music and Charanga.

For more information visit www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk



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