

Kent Festival of Music, Speech and Drama

Strings, Woodwind and Brass Syllabus 2026

1. All pieces are own choice, unless stated otherwise.
2. All classes are competitive, unless stated otherwise.
3. Own choice class bands are identified as:
 - Beginner: pre grade 1 level.
 - Elementary: grades 1-2 level.
 - Intermediate: grades 3-4 level.
 - Higher: grades 5-6 level.
 - Advanced: grade 7+
4. Grade classes consist of the performer's own choice of one solo piece for the appropriate grade from any current examination syllabus. Performers may enter only one Grade class, and must not have passed the examination for, or play a piece from, a higher grade. The examination board must be stated on the entry form.
Bands are identified as
 - Pre-Grade 1, for example: ABRSM Prep Test or Initial, Trinity Initial, and LCM Steps.
 - Grades 1 & 2
 - Grades 3 & 4
 - Grades 5 & 6
 - Grades 7 & 8
5. Recital Classes consist of the performer's own choice of two contrasting pieces. These need not be examination pieces but should be of the appropriate level. Performers are expected to announce their pieces. Choice of repertoire, stagecraft and communication with the audience will be taken into consideration when awarding marks.
6. Open Classes may be entered by professionals as well as amateurs. For the purpose of this Festival, a professional is one whose living is dependent on the teaching or performance of music.
7. In non-competitive classes, no certificates will be awarded but each performer will receive a verbal and written adjudication.
8. Any Trophies will be presented at the discretion of the adjudicator.
9. It is acceptable for one player to play more than one instrument in any class.
10. Copies of performance pieces must be provided for the Adjudicator.

String Classes

001 Own Choice Beginner: 8 years & under

Fee £6.50
8 and under
Up to 2 mins

002 Own Choice Beginner: 9 years & over

Fee £6.50
9 and over
Up to 2 mins

003 Own Choice Elementary: 8 years & under

Fee £6.50
8 and under
Up to 3 mins

004 Own Choice Elementary: 9 years & over

Fee £6.50
9 and over
Up to 3 mins

005 Own Choice Intermediate: Any Age

Fee £6.50
Any age
Up to 4 mins

006 Own Choice Higher: Any Age

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 6 mins

007 Own Choice Advanced: Any Age

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 10 mins

008 Own Choice: Open

Fee £8.50
Any age
Up to 15 mins

009 Duets or Trios: 8 years & under (non-competitive)

Fee £6.50 per group
At least 1 performer to be 8 years and under. Other performers may be music professionals.
Group of 2 to 3 people
Up to 8 mins

010 Duets or Trios: 9 years & over (non-competitive)

Fee £7.50 per group

At least 1 performer to be a pupil or amateur. Other performers may be music professionals.

Group of 2 to 3 people

Up to 8 mins

011 Duets or Trios: Open

Fee £8.50 per group

Group of 2 to 3 people

Up to 10 mins

012 Ensemble: Open

Fee £8.50 per group

Groups of 4 people or more.

Up to 10 mins

013 Any Study: Own choice, Intermediate

Fee £6.50

11 and under

Up to 5 mins

014 Any Study: Own choice, Higher

Fee £6.50

12 and over

Up to 5 mins

015 Any Study: Own choice, Advanced

Fee £6.50

Any age

Up to 5 mins

016 Any Study: Own choice, Open

Fee £6.50

Any age

Up to 5 mins

017 Pre-Grade 1

Fee £6.50

Any age

018 Grades 1 & 2

Fee £6.50

Any age

019 Grades 3 & 4

Fee £6.50

Any age

020 Grades 5 & 6

Fee £6.50

Any age

021 Grades 7 & 8

Fee £7.50

Any age

022 Recital Elementary

Fee £7.50

Any age

Up to 7 mins

023 Recital Intermediate

Fee £7.50

Any age

Up to 10 mins

024 Recital Higher

Fee £9.50

Any age

Up to 12 mins

025 Recital Advanced

Fee £11.50

Any age

Up to 15 mins

026 Recital Open

Fee £12.50

Any age

Up to 20 mins

027 Concerto Open

One movement of a concerto to be accompanied by piano

Fee £12.50

Any age

Up to 20 mins

028 Composition: 12 years & Under

An own composition for a string instrument, or a string instrument with one other instrument or voice, in any style. The composer to perform the piece or arrange for it to be performed. A handwritten or computer processed copy must be provided for the adjudicator.

Fee £6.50

12 years & under

Up to 3 mins

029 Composition: over 12 years

An own composition for a string instrument, or a string instrument with one other instrument or voice, in any style. The composer to perform the piece or arrange for it to be performed. A handwritten or computer processed copy must be provided for the adjudicator.

Fee £6.50

Over 12 years

Up to 5 mins

Woodwind & Brass Classes

030 Own Choice Beginner: 11 years & under

Fee £6.50
11 and under
Up to 2 mins

031 Own Choice Beginner: 12 years & over

Fee £6.50
12 and over
Up to 2 mins

032 Own Choice Elementary: 11 years & under

Fee £6.50
11 and under
Up to 3 mins

033 Own Choice Elementary: 12 years & over

Fee £6.50
12 and over
Up to 3 mins

034 Own Choice Intermediate: Any Age

Fee £6.50
Any age
Up to 4 mins

035 Own Choice Higher: Any Age

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 6 mins

036 Own Choice Advanced: Any Age

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 10 mins

037 Own Choice: Open

Fee £8.50
Any age
Up to 15 mins

038 Duets or Trios: 11 years & under (non-competitive)

Fee £6.50 per group
At least 1 performer to be 11 years and under. Other performers may be music professionals.
Group of 2 to 3 people
Up to 8 mins

039 Duets or Trios: 12 years & over (non-competitive)

Fee £7.50 per group

At least 1 performer to be a pupil or amateur. Other performers may be music professionals.

Group of 2 to 3 people

Up to 8 mins

040 Duets or Trios: Open

Fee £8.50 per group

Group of 2 to 3 people

Up to 10 mins

041 Ensemble: Open

Fee £8.50 per group

Groups of 4 people or more.

Up to 10 mins

042 Any Study: Own choice, 11 years & under.

Fee £6.50

11 and under

Up to 5 mins

043 Any Study: Own choice, 12 years & over

Fee £6.50

12 and over

Up to 5 mins

044 Any Study: Own choice, Open

Fee £6.50

Any age

Up to 5 mins

045 Pre-Grade 1

Fee £6.50

Any age

046 Grades 1 & 2

Fee £6.50

Any age

047 Grades 3 & 4

Fee £6.50

Any age

048 Grades 5 & 6

Fee £6.50

Any age

049 Grades 7 & 8

Fee £7.50

Any age

050 Recital Elementary

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 7 mins

051 Recital Intermediate

Fee £7.50
Any age
Up to 10 mins

052 Recital Higher

Fee £9.50
Any age
Up to 12 mins

053 Recital Advanced

Fee £11.50
Any age
Up to 15 mins

054 Recital Open

Fee £12.50
Any age
Up to 20 mins

055 Concerto Open

One movement of a concerto to be accompanied by piano
Fee £12.50
Any age
Up to 20 mins

056 Composition: 12 years & Under

An own composition for a wind/brass instrument, or a wind/brass instrument with one other instrument or voice, in any style. The composer to perform the piece or arrange for it to be performed. A handwritten or computer processed copy must be provided for the adjudicator.
Fee £6.50
12 years & under
Up to 3 mins

057 Composition: over 12 years

An own composition for a wind/brass instrument, or a wind/brass instrument with one other instrument or voice, in any style. The composer to perform the piece or arrange for it to be performed. A handwritten or computer processed copy must be provided for the adjudicator.
Fee £6.50
Over 12 years
Up to 5 mins