

MK Music Centre Bulletin – May 2025

Welcome

We have another busy term and end to the academic year. Many thanks as always for supporting your child in their music making with us! Here's what's going on over the next few weeks....

Giles Liddiard - Instrumental Leader

Term Dates



Remaining Music Centre dates this term are:



- Fridays 6, 13, 20, 27 June / 4, 11 July
- Saturdays 7, 14, 21, 28 June / 5, 12 July (Fiesta on 12 July)

A full list of term dates can be found on our web site:

Music Centre - Milton Keynes Music Service

Auditions (Youth Orchestra, String Orchestra, Wind Orchestra)

We are now accepting applications for students to audition for our 'senior' groups. Students should be of Grade 5 standard and above. Auditions are required for students wishing to play in **String Orchestra**, **Youth Orchestra** and now **Wind Orchestra** and will take place at Newport Pagnell Library during the week commencing Monday 7th July 2025 after the school day has finished. Applicants will be allocated a 10 minute slot and advised of the date/time nearer to the date.

Details are on our website with a link to apply: <a href="https://miltonkeynesmusicservice.com/audition-form-youth-orchestra-string-orchestra-wind-orchestra

All applicants should prepare:

A piece: Free choice that reflects the applicant's current standard. This will usually be played unaccompanied.

Ensemble repertoire: If the candidate is already in an MK Music Centre ensemble, they will be asked to play a short excerpt from a piece that the group is currently playing. Therefore, candidates should bring their ensemble music with them.

Sight Reading: Candidates will be asked to play a short piece of sight reading appropriate to their standard.

The Fanfare MK Charity

The Fanfare MK Charity (who run the Saturday morning cafe) would like to support students to attend music centre by providing bursaries for 50% of fees for those in financial need. The application process is now open for support for this term and (retrospectively) for the previous term. **You do not need to be in receipt of benefits to apply for a bursary**. If you would like to find out more, please contact the trustees at info@fanfare-mk.org.uk.



'Fanfare Milton Keynes' is now a charity with the following aim: To advance the musical education of children residing in Milton Keynes in particular but not exclusively by administering a bursary fund to support families with financial hardship to access music activities at Milton Keynes Music Centre, part of the BLMK Music Hub. The trustees are holding an informal meeting at 10am on Saturday 5th July to tell parents a bit more about the charity and its broader aims going forward. A reminder will be sent out nearer the time.

Milton Keynes Music Service

W: www.miltonkeynesmusicservice.com

E: music@milton-keynes.gov.uk







End of Term Concert and Summer Fiesta

Summer Fiesta

For those of you new to the Music Centre, on the final Saturday morning of the term, July 12th, we hold the 'Summer Fiesta'. The event is free and friends, family and supporters are welcome to attend.



No ticket is required. Most groups will give an informal performance during the morning and a full timetable is available here: https://miltonkeynesmusicservice.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Summer-Fiesta-2025-v1.pdf

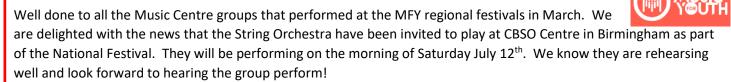
The usual timetable will not apply on this day. Therefore, please don't assume that your child's group will perform during the usual rehearsal time.

End of Term Concert

The Wind Orchestra, Youth Orchestra and String Orchestra will be performing on Thursday 17th July 2025 at The Stables Theatre. Details about the day will be emailed directly to parents of those groups.

Tickets are now available for purchase and will need to bought from the Stables directly: Milton Keynes Music Centre End of Year Concert | The Stables

Music for Youth





France Tour 2025

Our trip to France is getting closer and we are very much looking forward to it! Final plans are being made and we will be contacting the participating students with further information soon.

We wish you all an enjoyable trip!

Moving Groups

By far the best time for your child to move groups, if they are going to, is September as, on the whole, we like to keep the groups static for an academic year. Here's a quick guide:



- Initial Choir: Suitable for children in Years 3, 4 & 5.
- Development Choir: Suitable for children in Year 6 and above
- Beginner groups: Grades 0 1 (Year 3+)
- Junior Groups: Grades 1 − 3
- Intermediate Groups: Grades 3 5
- Senior Groups (Wind Orchestra, String Orchestra and Youth Orchestra) Grade 5 and above.
 Auditions are required for students wishing to join String Orchestra, Youth Orchestra and Wind Orchestra.

If you aren't sure, now would be a good time to speak to your child's group conductor.



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