

FAREHAM



Music Festival

West Hill Park School - Titchfield

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

1 - 3 May 2026

Syllabus

free online, £3.00 if collected,
or £7.00 (inc. postage) payable with entry

ENTRIES CLOSE 1st March 2026

PLEASE RETURN YOUR ENTRIES ON TIME

Affiliated to the British & International Federation
of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech

Registered Charity No: 1042609

FAREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026

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FESTIVAL TIMETABLE

The timetable is dependent on the number and type of entries, particularly those for Choirs and Barbershop. It may be necessary to devote Friday evening to Junior Choirs and Junior Vocals, but the general plan is as follows The final timetable will be published when classes have been scheduled.

		HALL	LIBRARY
Friday	6:30pm-9:00pm	Junior Choirs Junior Vocal	
Saturday	9:00am-8:00pm	Adult Choirs Adult Voice Barbershop Mixed Voice	Piano Instrumental
Sunday	9:00am-1.30pm	Battle of the Bands New performance class– Further Education Performance: Vocal and/or instrumental: 10 to 15 minutes. Choice of own songs/music. Students age 17 or over in full time education Percussion	Piano Instrumental

FAREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

Officers & Committee Members

Chairperson	Mrs Sule Taylor
Vice Chairperson	Mrs Hazel Humphreys
Hon. Secretary	Mrs Ruth Leech
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs Celia Faulkner
Trophy Secretary	Mrs Sarah Simojoki
Venue Organiser	Mr Peter Humphreys
Piano Advisor	Mrs Sule Taylor
Safeguarding Officers	Mrs Ruth Leech
WebMaster	Mr Peter Humphreys
	Mrs Anne Hedges
	Mrs Marianne Shirley

All Enquiries to:

Mr Peter Humphreys, 47 Crescent Road, Locks Heath, Southampton SO31 6PE

Telephone: 01489 580 156 ... Email: pxh_jive@hotmail.com

07968 096 054

Festival website: <http://farehammusicfestival.org.uk>

Registered Charity Number 1042609

**Affiliated to the British and International
Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance & Speech**

WELCOME TO THE 2026 FESTIVAL

We will be running the 80th annual [Fareham Music Festival](#) between Friday 1st May and Sunday 3rd May 2026 at West Hill Park School in Titchfield. If you have not visited us before I would like to take this opportunity of explaining what we do and inviting you to enter students to the festival.

Fareham Music Festival (like the other 300+ Festivals affiliated to the [British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance & Speech](#)) is a charitable organisation run entirely by volunteers. The Federation is dedicated to providing a platform for people of all ages interested in the performing arts. We organise a weekend of music-making in Fareham with the benefit of constructive criticism from experienced adjudicators. Despite its competitive nature, we pride ourselves on creating a friendly atmosphere for all our visitors. Our adjudicators for 2026 will be **Steven Roberts** (for choral & vocal) and **Liz Childs** (for piano & instrumental).

The Festival Committee seeks to work in partnership with parents, guardians and teachers and endeavours to provide, as far as is practicable, a safe and secure environment for all participants. If you are entering competitors who are children or vulnerable adults, please draw the attention of their parents/guardians/carers to our Safeguarding Policy (in the Syllabus and on our [website](#)), and remind them that they are responsible for the safety of their children and should accompany and supervise them throughout the Festival.

We are pleased to introduce a new class VM01 for solo or multiple performers ages 17 or over and in full time education, with a programme of your own choice, with duration between 10 & 15 minutes. The performance may be A Capella, vocal and instrumental or instrumental only, with single or multiple performers..

Entry Forms will be available for downloading from our website. **The closing date for entries is 1st March.** I look forward to welcoming you to our Festival. If you have any questions please call, write, or email me.

Sule Taylor

Chairperson, Fareham Music Festival

Telephone 01489 600 863, email suletaylor@hotmail.com

Would you like to become a Friend of the Festival or be listed in our Register of Teachers and/or sponsor a class?

A Friend is entitled to a Programme and admission to all classes of the Festival weekend for a minimum donation of £15 pa – see [donation form](#)

Entry in Teacher's Register £7, Sponsor a Class £10, Register + Sponsor £15
- see [registration form](#)

Donations in cash or kind are always welcome.

Volunteers to assist with the running of the Festival are always needed.

We need lots of helpers to ensure the smooth running of the Festival, including: committee, admin support for the adjudicators, door and hall stewards, taking admission fees at the door, selling tickets and programmes, and assisting at the certificate desks.

Please contact a Committee member if you wish to help in any way.

Pay by BACS:

Lloyds Bank: Fareham Music Festival

Sort code: 30-93-17

Account Number: 00186539

or

Pay by Cheque to **Fareham Music Festival** – thank you.

ADJUDICATORS

Liz Childs

GRSM(Hons), LRAM, ARAM



Liz studied Flute with Gareth Morris and Piano with Graeme Humphrey at the RAM and has performed all over the world. Her varied career includes performing with Quintessimo, adjudicating at both home and abroad and was visiting Flute Teacher for the University of East Anglia when it had a full-time music department.

Liz is very comfortable adjudicating virtually/online and has already undertaken some of these classes and really enjoyed them.

Liz is founder and Musical Director of the Bedfordshire Woodwind Academy (www.bedfordshirewoodwind.co.uk) which includes the Bedfordshire Woodwind Academy Flute

Ensemble which is thriving having undertaken 3 European concert tours with a more extensive one proposed for 2021. Liz is Flute/Piano/ Ensemble teacher at Beechwood Park School in Markyate, Hertfordshire a role that she thoroughly enjoys on many levels.

Liz is passionate about her work as an Adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, regarding it a real privilege to be able to encourage and inspire performers. She believes that a positive experience at a Federation Festival can change a performer's life forever. It did hers!

Steven Roberts

MEd, BA(Hons), CertEd, BBCM, CMS



Steven has been a music adjudicator since 2001; has sat on the Adjudicators Council and was Chair of the Board of Trustees between 2014 and 2023. He is a busy professional, conducting, teaching and lecturing. He brings with him experience as a manager, knowledge of quality systems, business acumen and many years of leading change. He has successfully combined a career in education with his work as a conductor, musical director and adjudicator, working both in this country and in Europe and as far afield as Peru and Bahrain. Steven has conducted numerous concerts both in this country and throughout Europe with a variety of choirs, ensembles, orchestras, wind bands and brass bands.

He has toured extensively with the Gary Clarke (Contemporary Dance) Company for his productions of COAL and WASTELAND. He studied piano, brass and voice and has worked in a variety of musical settings. He has worked alongside actors and dancers on many projects and is keen to support the work of the Federation to maximise opportunities for performance within all disciplines. He enjoyed working with his colleagues on the Board and Councils and continues to serve the wider community of volunteers that help to keep our Festivals vibrant.

Having previously held the post of Director of External Relations at Barnsley College he has excellent communication skills and enjoys collaborative working. He runs singing workshops for both adults and young people, particularly focussing on Key Stage 1 and 2. He teaches Piano, Brass and Voice in a Secondary setting and is a visiting lecturer at the University of Salford in the Department of Occupational Therapy, lecturing on presence and engagement. He is Conductor of Altrincham Choral Society, Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and Honley Male Voice Choir.

He is a Life member of ACS, CPC and a Fellow for the Royal Society for Arts and is Honorary Vice President of Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band. He became Chair of the Huddersfield Mrs Sunderland Festival in 2025.

ENTERING THE FESTIVAL

Information which you provide on the Entry Form will be treated in accordance with the Festival's Data Protection Policy.

This year, the closing date for entries is 1st March.

To ensure that the name on your certificate will be printed correctly, please check your timetable which will be distributed in mid-April. If the spelling is incorrect, please notify

Peter Humphreys at 01489 580 156 or pxh_jive@hotmail.com as soon as possible.

The Festival Entry Form is available to download from the website in [doc](#) or [pdf](#) format and entries on that official entry form (photocopies are acceptable) should be sent to:

Mr Peter Humphreys, 47 Crescent Road, Locks Heath, Southampton, SO31 6PE
or by email to: pxh_jive@hotmail.com

Payment is accepted by **cheque(s)** payable to **FAREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL**
or by Bank Transfer to:

Lloyds Bank: Fareham Music Festival

Sort Code: 30-93-17

Account: 00186539

SYLLABUS

You may view and download individual syllabus sections (Ensemble, Instrumental, Piano, and Vocal) or the complete syllabus in *pdf* format from our website <https://farehammusicfestival.org.uk/>.

ENTRY FEES (2026)

The age of an entrant for Festival classes will be their age as at the entry closing date (i.e., 1st March of the year of the festival). In entries of mixed ages, the age of the oldest performer determines the class and fee unless stated otherwise in the Syllabus.

All classes except Choirs & Ensembles				Choirs & Ensembles	
	Solos	Duets	Recitals/Performance	(Any age)	
11 years and under	£9.00	£10.00	£14.00	Up to 10 performers	£24.00
12 - 17 years	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00		
18 years & over Amateur	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00	11-20 performers	£30.00
18 years & over Open	£12.00	£14.00	£18.00		
Senior citizens (age 60 or over)	£9.00	£11.00	£14.00	Over 20 performers	£38.00
Sight reading Adult	£6.00				
Sight reading Junior	£4.00				
Performance, 17 yrs or over in full time education			£11.00		

ACCOMPANISTS

Entrants are advised that Fareham Music Festival does not employ official accompanists. It is the responsibility of entrants who require an accompanist to engage their own in good time before the Festival. You may need to pay a fee for the accompanying of your Festival performance and for any rehearsals you may arrange. Payment is a matter between the accompanist and the performer. Accompanist fees are not set by the Fareham Music Festival. Please indicate the name of your agreed accompanist on the entry form to assist in the scheduling of classes.

For help in finding an accompanist see our Register of Teachers and Accompanists.

AT THE FESTIVAL

Festival Admission Charges	Adult	Senior	Child (10-17)
per session (morning, afternoon, or evening)	£3.00	£2.00	£1.00
Per day	£6.00	£5.00	£2.00
Performers, teachers, accompanists and under 10 free			

Both competitors and audience should be seated in time for the beginning of each session. Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off.

***No one will be allowed to enter during a performance or adjudication,
as this is both discourteous and distracting.***

Bad language will not be tolerated at any age. Adjudicators have recommended (particularly for junior competitors) that:

- (1) Competitors should dress appropriately for their Song and Character,
- (2) Any lyrics should be suited to the age of the competitor.

Music can be obtained from on-line sources or:

- Triangle Pianos: <http://www.trianglepianos.co.uk>, telephone 02380-552 656
27 Manor Farm Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton SO18 1NN
- Becketts Music Ltd: <http://www.beckettsmusic.co.uk>, telephone 02380-224 827
56 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1GD

It is the competitor's responsibility to collect certificate, comment sheet and music at the end of each session. The Committee does not accept responsibility for these or any personal items or instruments.

Free Car Parking: where marked in the school grounds (not on the grass please)

FESTIVAL RULES

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**ALL TROPHIES MUST BE RETURNED CLEANED AND IN GOOD
CONDITION, TO THE TROPHY SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN
1st March of the year of the festival**

Mrs Sarah Simojoki, 65 Furzehall Avenue, Fareham, Hants. PO16 8UD
Telephone 01329 822 832, Email: simojoki@gmail.com

Thank you

WHO MAY ENTER

1. The following rules apply to all sections of the Fareham Music Festival. Certain sections have additional rules which will be found at the beginning of the Syllabus and Programme for those sections.
2. All classes, except those designated OPEN, are for amateurs. An amateur is someone who does not earn their livelihood from performance in the section in which they seek to enter the Festival. This also applies to all members of ensembles.
3. A professional is defined as a person whose principal means of livelihood is obtained by performing and/or teaching in the discipline involved. This rule does not apply to conductors. Professionals may only enter classes designated as "Open". Amateur status cannot be held by someone who is, or who has been, paid to perform in the discipline in which they seek to enter the Festival.
4. No one under the age of 18 may enter any adult class.
5. Entrants may perform once only in each class, except in family ensemble classes provided that a different part is taken.
6. No performer may perform the same piece in more than one class, or in the same class in different years.
7. Entrants in any family ensemble must have been bona fide members of that ensemble for two months prior to the date of performance. Conductors may not sing with their **choirs**.
8. When more than one item is performed by an ensemble, membership of that ensemble must be the same for each item.

ORGANISATION

9. The Committee reserves the right to:
 - Reject any proposed entry.
 - Appoint replacement or additional adjudicators and to alter, modify or cancel any of the arrangements detailed in the Syllabus.
 - Provide an electric piano for use in any section where it is not possible to provide an acoustic instrument.
10. Performers are responsible for the care of their belongings, including instruments, at all times. The Festival management cannot accept responsibility for any losses incurred.
11. For large groups, in addition to the MD, one helper per twenty performers will be admitted free.
12. The Committee reserves the right to split or combine classes to ensure the smooth running of the Festival.

HOW TO ENTER

13. The following criteria apply for age limits:
 - Age is as of 1st March of the year of the festival.
 - YOUTH CHOIRS/BANDS/ORCHESTRAS – all players must be in full-time education, and aged 18 years or under as of 1st September of the current academic year, unless stated otherwise in the section.
 - Ages must be quoted correctly on the entry form.
14. The person submitting and signing the entry form must be 18 years or over.
15. All entries are to be sent to the address indicated on the entry form and should be received by the closing date as published in the syllabus and online.
16. Entry fees cannot be returned, except for entries not accepted by the decision of the Committee, or as otherwise provided for in these Rules.
17. The exact time of each piece must be stated on the entry form.

OWN CHOICE PIECES

18. These must be identified, and their running times given on the entry form. Entries will not be accepted if this is not done. Changes in "Own choice" pieces cannot be accepted after 6 weeks preceding the Festival. **PERFORMERS MUST PROVIDE THE ADJUDICATOR WITH THE MUSIC THEY WILL BE PERFORMING.** This can be in the form of a photocopy or online purchase as defined within these rules. **Failure to provide the adjudicator with the music you will be performing will result in disqualification.**
19. If the piece performed is different from that specified by the closing date, the performer will be adjudicated only.
20. No person will be allowed to take part more than once in any one class unless playing a different instrument, except in a duet or group class, where a second entry is permitted provided a different part is performed.
21. Performers who are members of more than one choir or group are permitted to perform as a member of each choir or group to which they belong.
22. Standards are indicated either by age or grade. Where a class is denoted by grade indicators, the entrant should not have taken a higher grade as of 1st January of the current Festival year. N.B. The entrant may play a piece on a current examination syllabus one grade higher than the highest grade specified for the class, but they must not have taken the exam at that level. This does not apply to examination classes, which refer to the grade about to be taken.
23. A Novice is considered to be an entrant who has not been learning an instrument for more than 12 months on 1st January of the current Festival year. A Novice in the Woodwind, Strings & Brass sections is considered to be someone who is currently learning his/her first woodwind, string or brass instrument and has only been playing it for no more than 12 months on 1st January of the current Festival year.
24. Songs and Dances: Songs and Dances from shows may not be performed in any manner that identifies them with any show currently being staged. Where movement or costume does identify a performance with a show currently being staged in the UK, performance copyright permission is required. It is the responsibility of the performer to acquire this copyright permission and proof will be required by the Fareham Music Festival. However, a "straight" concert performance does not require any copyright permission.

EXAM CLASSES

25. These are confined to current Associated Board or Trinity grade pieces. Performers should provide the Adjudicator with a copy of the music. Also see rule 22 above.

GROUP CLASSES SPECIFIED BY AGE OR STANDARD

26. In all music ensembles (including duets), the class entered is to be that of the youngest or least experienced entrant who should play a significant part.

PERFORMANCE

27. Performers are advised to be present at the venue at least 20 minutes before the advertised time of their class. Any entrant not present when the class is called will not be allowed to take part unless a valid reason can be given. The decision of the Fareham Music Festival Committee will be final.
28. Times of classes are subject to change at the discretion of the Fareham Music Festival Committee. (This may occur in cases where all the performers are present before the advertised time.)
29. Performers are expected to perform in the order in which they are listed in the programme. Alterations will only be made at the discretion of the committee.

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30. A copy of each Own Choice piece must be handed to the adjudicator's steward at the time of the performance, otherwise the entrant will be adjudicated only. Photocopies may be offered provided an original hard copy or online copy has been purchased. The photocopy will be retained and destroyed by the adjudicator's steward after the performance.
31. Entrants and teachers are asked to check and to carefully comply with both upper and/or lower time limits. Failure to keep within the time limits set will mean that the performer will be adjudicated only.
32. The time limits in RECITAL classes are for the TOTAL performance, including introductions and pauses between pieces.
33. Any cuts and omissions in the music being performed must be clearly indicated on all copies provided for the adjudicator and the accompanist (if one is required).

BEHAVIOUR

34. Any inappropriate behaviour exhibited in any section of this Festival will result in the person concerned and the teacher/organisation to which s/he belongs being liable to immediate removal and being banned from the Fareham Music Festival for up to three years. NB: Entry fees are not refundable in this instance.
35. No performance should contain swearing or obscene language. Any performance that breaks this rule will be immediately disqualified and the performer may, at the discretion of the section head, be required to withdraw from further classes in that section.
36. Performers should avoid using material unsuitable for the age of the performer.

PHOTOCOPYING OF MUSIC

37. The Festival cannot legally allow anyone to play/perform from photocopied music and has no choice but to disqualify performers and accompanists who do so, unless before their class starts, they can produce written evidence showing that the publisher's agreement has been sought and given.
38. The only photocopies the Festival can allow in law are:
 - Copies for the adjudicator's use, which will be destroyed at the end of each class.
 - For an awkward page-turn which may hinder a performance. In this instance, the performer/accompanist must show the original, purchased copy and the photocopied page to the Adjudicators Steward before the class begins, and receive his/her agreement to its use.
 - Those that comply with current photocopying laws.
 - Legal downloads.

MOBILE PHONES, RECORDING DEVICES AND PHOTOGRAPHY

39. Phones must be switched off while the Festival classes are in progress.
40. For copyright reasons the Festival is advised by the British & International Federation of Festivals that the use of video cameras and recording devices of any kind by the audience is not permitted unless the person concerned can show Festival staff a valid copyright permissions licence allowing them to record events, and they have the permission of the adjudicators and the performers (or the parents/guardians/carers of the performers under the age of 18).
41. Still photography is not allowed during performances, although relations/friends may photograph cup/trophy presentations.
42. Any complaint or objection relating to the Festival will only be considered if submitted in writing to the Festival Secretary. The decision of the Management Committee in all matters arising out of, or not specifically covered in, these rules is final.

ACCOMPANISTS

43. Performers are responsible for arranging their own accompanist.
44. Accompanists known to the Festival Management Committee are listed in the Syllabus. Performers may contact any accompanist on that list. Performers do not have to use any of the listed accompanists; they may bring anyone of their choice.
45. Where appropriate, a hi-fi player (CD player, Bluetooth player or iPod dock) may be used by a performer.

PAYMENT & POSTAGE

46. All entries must be accompanied by the full entry fee. A cheque should be included with all postal entries. Alternatively, the box on the entry form should be ticked to confirm that payment has been made directly to the Fareham Music Festival bank account. Please note that entries will not be processed until the entry fees have been received.
47. All sections will receive an emailed syllabus. Entrants who prefer to receive a printed schedule through the post need to include a stamped, addressed envelope.
48. Entry fees are as specified in the Syllabus. Cheques should be made payable to Fareham Music Festival. Please do not send cash through the post. Payment through BACS is also available. Account Name: Fareham Music Festival; Sort Code: 30-93-17; Account Number: 00186539. Entry fees are not refundable.

ADJUDICATORS

49. Please note that only Festival officials directly concerned with the section may speak to the adjudicator.
50. The adjudicator can stop a performance at any time.
51. The adjudicator's decision in all cases is final.

RESULTS

52. All performers will be issued with a certificate and an adjudication providing the Festival rules have been complied with.
53. The winner(s) of each class will be announced. Second and third places will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.
54. Cups and trophies in this festival are awarded for the COMMENDED, HONOURS, OUTSTANDING & EXCEPTIONAL categories (80 marks and above); a cup may be awarded for a MERIT at the adjudicator's discretion.
55. The Festival reserves the right to present cups/trophies not awarded in the published class in other classes or sections in the current Festival, with the permission of the Cup Steward and/or Committee.
56. All cups and trophies remain the property of the Festival and have to be signed for before being taken away from the Festival.
57. It is the responsibility of the signatory (or his/her parent/guardian) to suitably insure the cup/trophy while it is in their possession.
58. Where Cups and trophies have been damaged whilst in the possession of the holder, the holder should arrange for repair at their expense, or the item will be repaired by the Festival and the invoice for the repair sent to that holder.
59. If a cup or trophy is lost whilst in the care of the holder, the Festival Committee will hold that person responsible for it. The matter should be referred to the Cup Secretary immediately. It will be the holder's responsibility to have any loss made good.
60. Holders may, at their own expense, have their name engraved on the plinth or shield only, not on the cup or trophy itself. If in any doubt, please consult the Cup Secretary.

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61. Cups and trophies should be returned in good and clean condition to Cup Secretary named on the receipt and in the Syllabus and Programme, by 1st March of the year after the festival. If returned by post, cups/trophies should be extremely well packed. Damage caused in transit will be invoiced to the sender. Please telephone before delivering a cup or trophy, so that you can hand it over in person. At no time should it be left outside the property, or on a doorstep or windowsill.

MARKING SCHEME

62. This year the new British & International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) marking scheme will be used. The Adjudicator will assign one of the following categories to each performance entitled to an adjudication:

Marking Band	Mark	Description
Progressing	70 – 74	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment
Merit	75 – 79	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability
Commended	80 – 84	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills
Honours	85 – 89	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
Outstanding	90 – 94	An impressive performance technically & artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality
Exceptional	95 +	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality

TROPHIES

63. Not all classes will carry a trophy - allocation is at the discretion of the Committee.
64. Trophies or other awards will not normally be awarded unless a Commended, or above category is achieved. However, the awarding of a trophy or other award is solely at the discretion of the Adjudicator.
65. Trophy winners may have their name, and the Festival year inscribed on their trophy, at their own expense, if they wish, so long as the style is consistent with existing inscriptions.
66. All trophies awarded at a Festival must be cleaned and returned in good condition to the Trophy Secretary by 1st March 2026.
67. If a trophy is lost/damaged or not returned on time the Committee reserves the right to:
- charge the recipient for repair or replacement,
 - withhold presentation of further trophies to the recipient and/or school.

GENERAL

68. The Committee cannot accept responsibility for property, including instruments and music, left at the Festival venue.

CREATING SAFER FESTIVALS FOR EVERYONE

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech and its member Festivals use the following policies and procedures to create **Safer Festivals for Everyone**:

1. A single, definitive **Safeguarding Policy** adopted by all Federation Festivals.
2. A single, definitive **Equal Opportunities Policy** adopted by all Federation Festivals.
3. One or more designated Festival Safeguarding Officers (FSO's) appointed for each Federation Festival.
4. Best practice advice in the form of **Safe Working Practice** and **Festival Child Protection leaflets**, with support and training for all Festival staff and volunteers. Including clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child.
5. Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new Festival staff and volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending / performing at a Federation Festival.
6. All Festival volunteers wear a Festival badge. All teachers/parents/guardians /carers are asked to report all incidents of any nature to anyone wearing a 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.
7. 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.
8. No unauthorised photography, audio or video recording of children and young people is allowed at our Festivals. Where parents/guardians/carers do not wish photos to be taken at all, then the responsible adult attending should ensure that their child is not included in official photos.
9. Some children and vulnerable adults may have specific needs in order to take part. If this is the case, we ask the responsible teachers/parents/guardians/carers to contact the Festival prior to arrival. The Festival actively seeks wherever possible to meet these needs but must know beforehand in order to prepare support – or to advise that help cannot be provided on this occasion.
10. The Festival's Child Protection Policy and approach to Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone is published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and on our website. By completing and signing the entry form all parents / guardians / carers and teachers of entrants under 18 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.

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech (BIFF) work 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 NSPCC guidance or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our member Festivals in time for the start of the new Festival year.

CHORAL SYLLABUS

Note:

- Choirs must provide their own Accompanist. Any form of accompaniment is acceptable.
- **We expect to be able to accommodate choral groups of up to 50 members – if your group is larger than this, please contact the Secretary before entering.**

SCHOOL & YOUTH CHOIRS

Own choice programme	Time limit	10 mins
C01 12 years and under		
C02 13 – 17 years		

ADULT CHOIRS & CHORAL ENSEMBLES, RECITAL (not Barbershop)

(With accompaniment)

A programme of songs in contrasting styles	Time limit	15.0 mins
C03 4 – 10 singers		
C04 11 – 20 singers		
C05 over 20 singers		

BARBERSHOP

Own choice programme		
C06 Barbershop Quartet or ensemble, maximum 8 voices	Time limit	8 mins
C07 Barbershop Chorus	Time limit	15 mins

OTHER CHORAL SINGING

C08 Part singing A Capella	Time limit	8 mins
C09 Light opera or music from shows, accompanied or unaccompanied, 2 contrasting pieces	Time limit	8 mins
C10 Choral sacred song, including Gospel & Spiritual songs, accompanied or unaccompanied, 2 contrasting pieces	Time limit	8 mins
C11 Single voice choir either all male or all female choirs, accompanied or unaccompanied, 2 contrasting pieces	Time limit	8 min

ENSEMBLE, ORCHESTRAL & BAND SYLLABUS

Time limit 15 mins

Any age (including family ensembles), own choice programme.

Any style from classical to pop/rock; Any combination of instruments, including percussion.

- E01** up to 10 players
- E02** over 10 players

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

E03 – The Battle of the Bands, Rock & Pop, 10 -18 years. Up to 10 players.

Time Limit set up 10 mins; Time Limit playing 10 mins

This class is open to rock or pop bands, playing original compositions or covers. (Please consider the appropriateness of any song words for a family audience). Each band will need to provide **all** their own equipment, including guitars, drum kit, amps, microphones, cabling & music stands etc. These can be set up in advance in coordination with the Festival committee.

FURTHER EDUCATION PERFORMANCE

VM01 A programme of your choice for 10 – 15 minutes. For performers of 17yr or over in full time education. Vocal and/or instrumental. Solo or multiple voice/instruments.

INSTRUMENTAL SYLLABUS

ABRSM or Trinity music is acceptable.

				BRASS	RE CORDER	STRINGS *	WOOD WIND	Time Limit (mins)
PRE GRADE 1		One piece	A performer may enter only one pre-grade or grade or diploma class for each instrument **	B00	R00	S00	W00	2
GRADES								
	1 & 2			B01	R01	S01	W01	3
	3 & 4			B03	R03	S03	W03	5
	5 & 6			B05	R05	S05	W05	5
	7 & 8			B07	R07	S07	W07	8
DIPLOMA				B08	R08	S08	W08	10
JUNIOR/ADULT CLASSES								
	Baroque and/or Classical	One or two pieces	B11/B21		S11/S21	W11/W21	10/15	
	Romantic		B12/B22		S12/S22	W12/W22	10/15	
	20 th Century onwards		B13/B23		S13/S23	W13/W23	10/15	
Recital: *** Two or more contrasting pieces			B19/B29		S19/S29	W19/W29	15/20	
DUET CLASSES (Open) • Two persons, any age (may comprise pupil & parent, teacher or sibling) • with or without piano accompaniment • One or more pieces			B20/R20/S20/W20 please specify instruments.				10	
MIXED INSTRUMENTAL DUETS (Open) • Two persons, any age (may comprise pupil & parent, teacher or sibling) • Any two instruments, with or without piano accompaniment • One or more pieces			E20					

* STRINGS to include Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp & Guitar

** Entrants to Pre-Grade, Grade and Diploma classes must not have taken a higher level exam as of 1st January of the current Festival year.

***For RECITALS, presentation and ensemble with the pianist will be taken into account.

PERCUSSION	Time limit 7 minutes
D01 Solo percussion – any age, any instrument(s). The class may be divided by age/style depending on the number of entries. For drums the performer may have to use their own drum kit if the drumkit provided by the School is unavailable. For other large instruments please contact the Secretary before entering.	

PIANO SYLLABUS

ASSOCIATED BOARD & TRINITY GRADE CLASSES

These classes are mainly for entrants of any age intending to take an Associated Board or Trinity exam (2025-26 syllabus) in the year of the Festival but are open to any amateur. No one may be entered for more than one of these solo classes. Competitors need to provide copies of the alternative pieces for the Adjudicator.

One piece from the ABRSM or Trinity syllabus is acceptable (including alternative pieces for each grade):

P01	Grade 1	P05	Grade 5
P02	Grade 2	P06	Grade 6
P03	Grade 3	P07	Grade 7
P04	Grade 4	P08	Grade 8

JUNIOR PIANO (UNDER 18)

An entrant may enter only one class from each category (see rule 4).

Own Choice

P09	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P11	Age 9 - 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P12	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P13	Age 15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

Baroque Period

P14	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P15	Age 9 -11 years	Time limit	3 min
P16	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P17	Age 15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

Classical Period

P18	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P19	Age 9 - 11 years	Time limit	4 min
P20	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	6 min

Sonata Class (Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert)

P21	Age 15 - 17 years	1 Movement from any Sonata	(Specify time on entry form)
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Romantic Period

P22a	age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P22	9 - 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P23	12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P24	15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

20th Century onwards

P25a	age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P25	9 - 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P26	12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P27	15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

Swing and Jazz

P28	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P29	Age 9 – 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P30	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P31	Age 15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

Recital

Own choice, 2 or 3 pieces contrasting in period and style

P32	Age 14 and under	Time limit	6-12 min
P33	Age 15 – 17	Time limit	10-15 min

Piano Plus

An opportunity to show your versatility as a musician - perform one piece on the piano, and another on any other instrument or voice (with or without accompaniment).

Please state the second instrument, titles, composers, and times on the entry form.

P34	Age 17 and under	Time limit	15 min
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Duets

Own choice

Both members of the duet must satisfy the age restriction

P35	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P36	Age 9 - 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P37	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P38	Age 15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

(Open) Own choice Pupil & parent, teacher, or adult sibling

The younger member of the duet must satisfy the age restriction

P39	Age 8 and under	Time limit	2 min
P40	Age 9 - 11 years	Time limit	3 min
P41	Age 12 - 14 years	Time limit	5 min
P42	Age 15 - 17 years	Time limit	7 min

Sight Reading

P43	Grades 1 - 3
P44	Grades 4 - 6
P45	Grades 7 – 8+

ADULT PIANO

Amateur Classes

P46	Sight Reading		
P47	Own Choice	Time limit	8 min
P48	Baroque	Time limit	8 min
P49	Classical	Time limit	8 min
P50	Romantic	Time limit	8 min
P51	Impressionist	Time limit	8 min
P52	20 th Century onwards	Time limit	8 min
P53	Recital: 2 or more contrasting pieces	Time limit	8-15 min
P54	Adult Amateur Duet	Time limit	8 min

Senior Citizens

Open to people aged 60 or over

P55	Any piece written before 1900	Time limit	7 min
P56	Any piece written after 1900	Time limit	7 min
P57	Piano Duet	Time limit	9 min

Open Classes

P58	Classical	(Specify time on entry form.)	
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Any first or last movement of a Sonata by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert.

P59	Baroque	Time limit	10 min
P60	Romantic	Time limit	10 min
P61	Impressionist	Time limit	10 min
P62	20 th Century onwards	Time limit	10 min
P63	Recital (2 or more contrasting pieces)	Time limit	12-20 min
P64	Adult Open Duet	Time limit	10 min
P65	Sight Reading		

VOCAL SYLLABUS

- No voice amplification is permitted in any vocal class.
- Backing tracks are permitted for the following classes only:
 - Modern Popular Song: V07a, V07b and V25
 - Disney Song: V08 and V09
 - Songs from the Shows: V10, V11, V12 and V20
 but it is recommended that a pianist/accompanist be engaged to create a better performance.
- If a backing track is used, please note that:
 - competitor must provide their own playback equipment, which should have a current PAT test certificate,
 - the track must not include any singing,
 - any intro/close in the track is to be included in the class time limit.
- There will be no exception to rule 15 for any class, i.e., the adjudicator must be provided with a copy of the printed music.

JUNIOR VOICE

note that material must be suited to the age of junior singers.

- **Adjudicators have noted that Junior vocals would benefit from a spoken introduction.**

Solo Boys & Girls

Own choice of two songs, contrasting in style, period, or nationality.

V01	8 years and under (4 min)	V03	12 - 14 years (6 min)
V02	9 -11 years (5 min)	V04	15 - 17 years (7 min)

Folk Song	Time limit	4 min
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Own choice, from any country, with or without live accompaniment

V05: 14 years and under	V06: 15 - 17 years
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Modern Popular Song	Time limit	4 min
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Any modern popular song [any song from the mid-1950's onwards.] (but **not** Disney **nor** originally Disney). May be accompanied by any instrument or by a backing tape.

V07a: 11 years and under	V07b: 12 - 17 years
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Disney Song	Time limit	4 min
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Any song from a Disney film or musical. May be accompanied by any instrument or by a backing tape.

V08: 11 years and under	V09: 12 - 17 years
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Songs from the Shows - (Costume optional)	Time limit	4 min
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Own choice of one song from any musical, operetta or film (**not** Disney **nor** originally Disney). May be accompanied by any instrument or by a backing tape.

V10: 11 years and under	V11: 12 - 14 years	V12: 15 - 17 years
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[Costume and/or props may be used provided that they do not compromise copyright of a show currently being staged in the UK]. The on-site changing facilities are the available toilets or the rear area of the stage.

FAREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026

French, German or Italian Song	Time limit	4 min
To be sung in the original language		
V13	17 years and under	
Sacred Music	Time limit	4 min
Any song from an oratorio, or with religious subject matter.		
V14	17 years and under	
Recital Class	Time limit	10 min
V15	Own choice programme of contrasting songs, (no arias from opera or oratorio). The Adjudicator will consider programme content and presentation. 17 years and under	
Duet Classes	Time limit	4 min
Own choice. Two distinct voice parts should be sung. Unison voices are not accepted.		
V16 (Open)	Teacher & Pupil or Family Duet - at least one voice must be under 18.	
V16a	Junior Duet – both voices 11 years and under	
V16b	Junior Duet – both voices 12 - 14 years	
V16c	Junior Duet – both voices 15 - 17 years.	
Ensemble Class	Time limit	4 min
V17	Own choice, any combination of voices up to six in number, in which several distinct parts are sung against each other. Unison voices are not accepted. All voices should be under 18.	
ADULT VOICE		
<i>note that bad language will not be tolerated in any class.</i>		
[Costume optional.]		
[Costume and/or props may be used provided that they do not compromise copyright of a show currently being staged in the UK]. The on-site changing facilities are the available toilets or the rear area of the stage.		
Adult Vocal Newcomer	Time limit	4 min
V18	Own choice. Open to a singer who has never taken part as an adult soloist in any festival before. (See rules 1 & 2 on Page 10)	
British Art Song	Time limit	5 min
V19	Any song by a British composer (not shows or operettas).	
Songs from the Shows	Time limit	6 min
V20	Own choice of one song, from any musical, operetta or film.	
Revue and Cabaret	Time limit	5 min
V21	Own choice of one song, e.g., Noel Coward, Cole Porter etc.	
Victorian or Edwardian Ballad	Time limit	5 min
V22	Any Drawing Room ballad or Music Hall song, composed 1840-1910	
Folk Song	Time limit	4 min
From any country, with or without accompaniment, or self-accompanied.		
V23	Any voice.	

FAREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026

American Song	Time limit	4 min
V24 Popular or Classical		
Modern Popular Song	Time limit	5 min
V25 Any modern popular song. May be accompanied by any instrument or by a backing track.		
Senior Citizens	Time limit	4 min
V26 Own choice. Open to people aged 60 or over.		
French, German, or Italian Song	Time limit	6 min
V27 To be sung in the original language (not from opera or musical theatre)		
Light Opera and G & S Open	Time limit	5 min
V28 Any song from a light opera or Savoy opera. Costume and/or props may be used provided they do not compromise copyright of a show currently being staged in the UK.		
Sacred Music Open	Time limit	7 min
V29 Any song from an oratorio, or with religious subject matter. Time limit	7 min	
Opera Open	Time limit	6 min
V30 Own choice from any opera. Costume and/or props may be used provided they do not compromise copyright of a show currently being staged in the UK. Adjudicator will consider presentation.		
Comic Song	Time limit	6 min
V31 A song to entertain the audience.		
Recital Open	Time limit	15 min
V32 Any voice, own choice programme, (excluding arias from opera and oratorio), one item at least to be sung in a language other than English. The Adjudicator will consider programme content and presentation.		
“Little Mix”	Time limit	7 min
V32b (solo) Two songs contrasting in period and style.		
Duets See Festival Rules Page 10	Time limit	5 min
V33a “Classical” (including opera)		
V33b “Modern” (including musicals)		
V33c (Open) Teacher and adult pupil (any genre)		
Small Ensemble	Time limit	5 min
V34 Any combination of voices up to six in number.		

REGISTER OF TEACHERS AND ACCOMPANISTS

Name	Subject(s)	Address
Kate Burrows	Accompanist	Gosport kate.burrows2010@yahoo.co.uk 07811-502735
Andrew Cleary BA, FRSA	Piano & Singing Teacher and Accompanist	Gosport/Fareham clearyandrew27@gmail.com 07963-111815
Karen Kingsley	Accompanist	11 Gurnard Rd. Cosham, Portsmouth. PO6 3HN k.kingsley@pgs.org.uk 07572 260440
Ruth Leech BA (Hons)Music, PGCE	Flute & Piano Teacher	Fareham rockingleech@sky.com 07746-297474
Helen Morris BMus (Hons), LTCL, MA	Piano Teacher and Accompanist	Gosport helen.morris62@gmail.com 02392-422398, 07906-013602
Gilly Slot BMus, ALCM, LTCL (piano)	Accompanist	Eastleigh gilly.slot@btinternet.com 02380-69334, 07972-478754

If you would like to be included here in future publications, please contact a Festival Committee member.

FESTIVAL VENUE

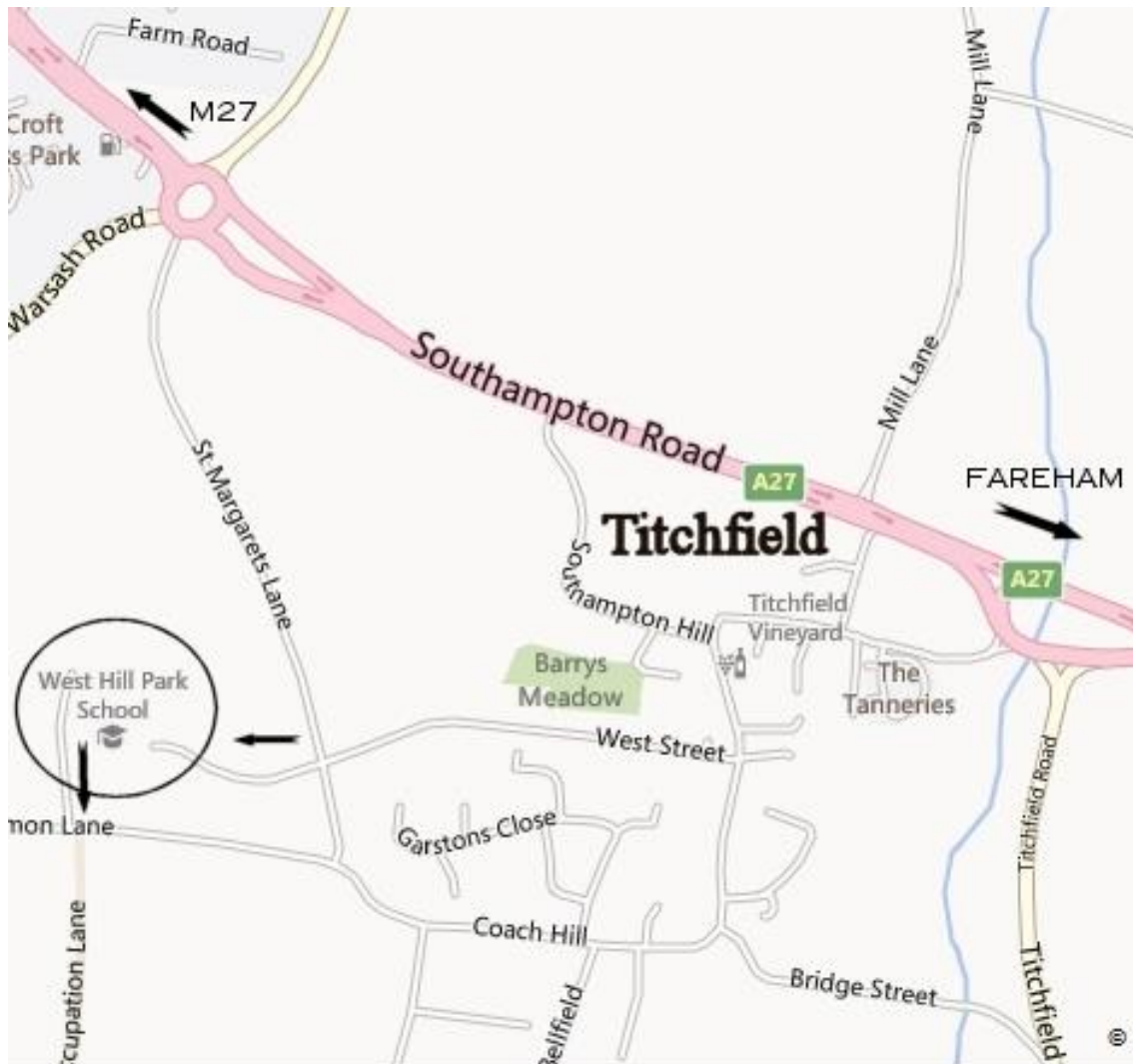
All our classes will be at **WEST HILL PARK SCHOOL** in Titchfield, just west of Fareham.

The school address is:

St Margarets Lane

Titchfield, Fareham, PO14 4BS

Approach through the main gate at the south end of St Margarets Lane. There is some parking at the front of the school. Reach additional car parks by following the road round to the right of the main building. Please do not park on the grass. Traffic is one-way: exit by continuing through the site to rear (barrier) gate into Common Lane.



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