



MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES

INFORMATION & PROCEDURES 2023-2024
WWW.NORFOLKMUSICHUB.ORG.UK | 01603 303351

NORFOLK MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES

Music Service Ensembles run weekly at various locations across the county. School aged pupils of all abilities are welcome to join any of the ensembles as we cater from Beginner to Advanced players, however, there is currently an audition process for those wishing to join the Norfolk County Symphonic Wind Band and the Norfolk Students' Jazz Orchestra. It is important that you find the most appropriate ensemble to suit your needs - the Music Service staff can help you with this. When enrolling for Ensembles for the next academic year we ask that you provide us with accurate medical information. For each separate performance we will ask you to complete a new consent form but ask if any medical information needs to be updated over the course of the academic year that you contact the ensembles lead to inform them as soon as possible.

WHICH ENSEMBLE CAN I JOIN?

Grade	-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	+	
All Instruments						Advanced Theory					
	Aylsham Cluster Ensemble										
	Beginner Ensemble Norwich										
			Jazz Zone								
Strings					Norfolk County Strings						
Brass, Woodwind & Percussion					Norfolk Students' Concert Band						
						Norfolk Students' Jazz Orchestra					
								Norfolk County Symphonic Wind Band			
Flute			Norfolk Flute Ensemble								

WHY PLAY IN AN ENSEMBLE?

Playing in an ensemble can help you develop as a musician. It helps you practice good listening skills (aural awareness), good musical communication skills and all sorts of playing techniques relevant to your specific instrument. Many musicians find that when they play in an ensemble they are inspired to practice their instrument more regularly. Most of all though, making music together is enormously rewarding and fun!

WILL I PLAY REGULARLY IN CONCERTS?

Yes! Performing is an integral part of our ensembles' membership. All of the ensembles have informal end of term concerts at Christmas and in the Summer. With a variety of other performance opportunities often arising during the year; including performances such as Music for Youth Festivals.

DO I HAVE TO COME TO EVERY REHEARSAL?

When you play in an ensemble you become a really important part of the team. If you want to play in the ensemble you need to be committed to rehearse each week. If you know you can't come one week (e.g. for a school commitment) then it is helpful if you can let your conductor know in advance by email. You can use the Music Service email address for this purpose too: music.service@norfolk.gov.uk

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

There is a standard charge of £55 per term for an individual membership and £80 per term for all face to face ensembles and classes. You can play in as many ensembles and classes as you like for this amount! Parents/carers will be invoiced by direct debit each term in October, February and May.

NB: Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals are entitled to a 50% discount on fees, while all Looked After Children can attend Ensembles free of charge. Please contact the Music Service to claim fee remission for your child/children. Please contact the Music Service to discuss further at the beginning of the academic year at: music.service@norfolk.gov.uk

HOW DO I APPLY TO JOIN AN ENSEMBLE?

You will need to register each year online to join the ensemble. Go to: bit.ly/NMSensembles

WHAT IF I AM UNSURE ABOUT JOINING AN ENSEMBLE?

Don't worry – people are often nervous on their first few weeks and we have staff to help you settle in quickly. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a trial session before registering.

WHAT TIME DO I NEED TO ARRIVE?

Staff are on site for ensembles for 15 minutes before the beginning of the rehearsal – you can arrive at any point during this time to set-up your instrument. At the end of the rehearsal we ask that parents/carers arrive promptly to collect their children.

CAN PARENTS WATCH REHEARSALS?

Parents cannot watch the rehearsals taking place as this is often distracting to the pupils.

CAN PARENTS WAIT AT REHEARSALS?

Parents are not permitted to stay on site during rehearsals.

WHAT IS THE SIGN-IN PROCEDURE?

It is important that when you arrive for your ensemble you sign in and when you leave, you sign out. This is our emergency register.

ARE REHEARSALS EVER CANCELLED?

You will receive a list of dates for rehearsals at the beginning of each term. Occasionally we may need to cancel a rehearsal at short notice (for instance in severe weather). In this instance you would be informed by 12-noon on the day via email and, where possible, text message. Please ensure that you keep your contact details up to date and inform us of any changes.

In addition, we post notices on social media and on the Norfolk Music Hub website:

www.norfolkmusic hub.org.uk



@NMHUB



NORFOLKMUSIC HUB



NORFOLKMUSIC HUB

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO REHEARSALS?

You need to remember to bring your instrument and a pencil to all rehearsals. Music stands and music is usually provided by the Music Service for each rehearsal. If your group has a break time you may like to bring a drink/snack.

CAN I JOIN AN ENSEMBLE IF I AM NOT TAUGHT BY A MUSIC SERVICE TEACHER?

Yes! Our ensembles are open to all young people educated in Norfolk. All are welcome and encouraged to become part of our vibrant ensemble life.

HOW WILL PARENTS RECEIVE COMMUNICATION ABOUT THE ENSEMBLES?

Communication about ensembles comes either directly from the Music Service or the ensemble leader. There are usually two to three letters per term regarding events and arrangements specific to the ensemble. These will be sent to you via email. Parents are advised to whitelist music.service@norfolk.gov.uk to ensure that important communications are not sent into spam folders.

For activities outside the normal pattern of calendar events then a separate consent form may be required for participating pupils. Concerts that happen within the usual annual pattern will not require additional consent.

CAN I CONTINUE ATTENDING AN ENSEMBLE IN MY GAP YEAR?

Yes, if you are a continuing learner. You will need to be willing to obtain a DBS certificate as a volunteer. Norfolk Music Service will support you with this.



WHAT DO EACH OF THE ENSEMBLES OFFER?

Aylsham Cluster Ensemble

Bure Valley School, Aylsham, NR11 6JZ
Thursday
4.00 – 5.00PM

Aylsham Cluster Ensemble is a group for any instrument and any age! The music is arranged to suit the players and as long as you can play 2 notes you are welcome to come and join in. It is a very friendly group and performs at least 3 times a year at the end of each term.

Conducted by Helen Barber and supported by David Stowell.

Beginner Ensemble Norwich

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
5.00 – 6.00PM

Beginner Ensemble Norwich is an exciting new ensemble for 2023. It caters for beginner wind, brass, string and percussion instrumentalists as well as any other instrumentalists that like to join an ensemble. The music is arranged to suit the players and as long as you can play 2 notes you are welcome to come and join in. You may be having individual instrumental lessons or learning in school as part of the Whole Class Ensemble Teaching programme (WCET) but however you are learning you are very welcome to come along and give it a try. This ensemble supersedes Training Windband and Training Strings.

Led by Helen Barber, this ensemble is for those just starting out on their musical journey. Repertoire will be varied and any instrument is welcome, from beginner level to approximately grade 4.

Jazz Zone

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
5.00 – 6.00PM

Jazz Zone is an exciting new ensemble offered to any instrumentalist who would like to play jazz. There will be opportunities to play from traditional notation and aurally. A great ensemble if you want to learn how to start improvising on your instrument, we will guide you through the basics and you will gain confidence with soloing.

Led by Geraldine Evans this ensemble is suitable for players with two years playing experience or grade 2-6.

Norfolk Flute Ensemble

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
5.00 – 6.00PM

This group is suitable for all enthusiastic flute (or piccolo players!). Flute Ensemble performs a wide range of repertoire from pop, classical and more. All materials will be provided and arranged to ensure that you can join in at your level of playing. Playing in a small ensemble such as this helps to develop a wide range of ensemble skills and gives flautists an opportunity to explore a wide range of music that they might not come across in larger ensembles.

Led by Victoria McCardle, students need to be playing at Grade 2+ standard to attend this ensemble.

Norfolk Students' Concert Band

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
6.10 – 7.15PM

Norfolk Students' Concert Band formerly Schools' Wind band is an intermediate wind band that develops ensemble playing further in Norfolk's progressive band route. The Concert Band performs to a high level, playing traditional and contemporary repertoire.

Conducted by Sylvia Newton, this ensemble is open to all woodwind*, brass and percussion players from Grade 4 to Grade 6 standard.

* Flutes of Grade 7 standard are welcome.

Norfolk County Strings

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
7.25 – 8.45PM

A higher-level string orchestra playing traditional and contemporary music. The Norfolk County Strings is a vibrant group who produce a robust string sound - a fantastic opportunity to make music with other string players.

Conducted by Helen Barber, students need to be Grade 4+ standard to play in this ensemble.

**Norfolk Students'
Jazz Orchestra**

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
6.10 – 7.15PM

One of Norfolk's flagship ensembles, NSJO is a small, high level ensemble that supports and nurtures jazz technique including improvisation. Throughout the year the band plays regular gigs, which is the focal drive to the ensemble.

Led by Geraldine Evans, this ensemble is open to wind, brass, guitar and keyboard players equivalent to Grade 6+. Entrance to this ensemble is via audition. Please contact the conductor or Ensembles Lead to arrange an audition.

**Norfolk County
Symphonic Wind Band**

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
7.25 – 8.45PM

One of Norfolk's flagship ensembles, the Symphonic Wind Band have performed in prestigious venues such as the Royal Albert Hall in London. This is a dynamic group of young musicians, playing advanced wind band repertoire. The Symphonic Wind Band performs regularly within the academic year so high commitment is essential for this ensemble.

Conducted by David Stowell, this ensemble is for woodwind, brass and percussion players who need to be of Grade 6 standard (Grade 7 for Flutes) to Grade 8+. Entrance to this ensemble is via audition. Please contact the conductor or Ensembles Lead to arrange an audition.

Advanced Theory

The Fisher Building, CNS School, Norwich, NR4 6PP
Monday
5.00 – 6.00PM

This session is focused on supporting students in post grade 5 theory. Norfolk Music Service tutors will be on hand to support students in areas of their theory of music that they may find challenging.

ONLINE ENSEMBLE OPPORTUNITIES

Further information on the free digital opportunities we run over the course of the academic year can be found by visiting www.norfolkmusicclub.org.uk

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN IT IS TIME TO MOVE UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL ENSEMBLE?

This is usually a combined discussion process between players, parents and staff involved with the ensembles. If you feel ready to give the next level up a go then talk to your conductor. We strongly recommend that pupils spend at least one term playing in two ensembles for a transition period. This allows pupils to grow in confidence in the more advanced ensemble whilst maintaining and passing over the leadership role in their original group.

WHAT DOES THE AUDITION PROCESS INVOLVE.

You will be auditioned by two staff members. You will need to prepare and play a short piece on your instrument and will be given some sight-reading. It is likely that one of the tutors will work on the piece with you for 5 minutes in the audition after you have played it to gain an understanding of how adaptable you are as a musician.

The audition is a reasonably relaxed process and usually held before a rehearsal or at the start of the rehearsal. After you have completed your performance audition we will probably invite you to sit in and play for the rehearsal as part of the audition process. Auditions can be booked at any point in the year, please speak to the conductor or Ensembles Lead to arrange an audition.

WHAT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE FOR ADVANCED PLAYERS?

Throughout the academic year, we offer advanced and dedicated players opportunities to perform in Chamber Ensembles and other Gifted & Talented ensembles. In recent years, advanced players have taken part in workshops and masterclasses, and have performed at Norwich Theatre Royal, Birmingham Symphony Hall, and the Royal Albert Hall!

WHAT DO I WEAR FOR REHEARSALS?

There are no specific requirements for dress for rehearsals. Some students come along in their school uniform and some in casual clothes – the most important thing is to make sure you are dressed comfortably when playing your instrument. For those rehearsing later in the evening it is advisable to bring warm layers of clothing during the winter months.

WHAT IS THE CONCERT DRESS CODE?

This varies occasionally for specific concerts, but the standard dress code is:

Aylsham Cluster Ensemble, Norfolk Beginner Ensemble, Jazz Zone, Flute Ensemble & Norfolk Students' Concert Band:

- ▶ Grey or black trousers or skirt
- ▶ White shirt or blouse
- ▶ Black shoes

Norfolk County Strings, Norfolk County Symphonic Wind Band & Chamber Orchestra projects:

- ▶ All black Evening wear or DJ (Black trousers, jacket, bow tie and white shirt). Socks, tights and shoes must be black

Norfolk Students' Jazz Orchestra:

- ▶ Smart all black
- ▶ Black socks / tights
- ▶ Black shoes



GUIDANCE AND POLICIES

These rules, procedures and information are intended to ensure the safe and smooth operation of rehearsals, courses and performances. Parents / Carers and students are asked to read them carefully.

STUDENT SAFETY

Norfolk Music Service has a commitment to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Our tutors and centres work within the Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Music Service Safeguarding Policy. The policy is available online.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

Copies of Risk Assessments for the ensemble venues are available through the Norfolk Music Hub website. The Risk Assessments include specific details of emergency procedures.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Parents/carers are asked to give relevant medical information when registering their child. It is essential that this information is kept updated in writing by parents. If your child has any specific needs we always value discussions with parents and do our best to ensure that pupils get the full support they need. This includes any forms of anxiety which can often display in performance contexts - our staff are highly experienced with supporting and nurturing students in this area.

PHOTOGRAPHY & SOCIAL MEDIA

Before joining the ensembles, parents and pupils over 16 need to read and agree to our Annual Media Statement for Music Service Ensembles. We occasionally take photos during the year, which are used solely for the use of promoting the Music Hub and its activities. The images are held securely for a maximum of two years. If all pupils have photographic permission in place in the ensemble, we allow parents to take videos of concerts **for personal use only, and strictly not for any form of social media**. Some events require additional photographic permission – such as taking part in Music for Youth events. These will be requested separately as required throughout the year.

BEHAVIOUR

Students are expected to behave in a responsible manner during rehearsals and breaks and to obey the instructions of staff and supervisors. Pupils need to ensure that they take good care of their and other students' instruments – particularly at the beginning and end of rehearsals and during break times.

NO-SMOKING POLICY

Students and parents are reminded that Norfolk Music Service operates a strict no-smoking policy. Students/parents must not smoke either in the building or grounds of the site in compliance with national legislation.

DRUGS/SOLVENTS/ALCOHOL

It is unacceptable for students to carry, purchase or use alcohol or any illegal substances or solvents whilst participating in ensemble activities.

MOBILE PHONES POLICY

KEY STAGE 2 AND 3

MOBILE PHONES - POSSESSION AND USE

Mobile phones are a part of modern society and the Music Service accepts that many students will possess them. They are a useful tool, especially where the issue of safety during the journey to and from ensemble activity is concerned and we acknowledge that parents and students would want them to be available to achieve this. However, Music Service teachers and other students have a right to teach and learn in an environment which is free from interruption by mobile phones and other such devices.

Mobiles phones present a number of challenges, including:

- ▶ Mobile phones interrupting teaching/ensemble activity and disrupting the learning of others
- ▶ Possible theft of mobile phones
- ▶ The ever-increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology, which increases the possibilities of inappropriate use, particularly with regard to video and photographic capabilities
- ▶ The need for students to be responsible with regard to the care of their possessions
- ▶ The negative impact of social media and cyberbullying.

The Music Service recognises the benefits that mobile phones offer students and parents and realises that an outright ban would result in a loss of these benefits. However, it is the responsibility of the Music Service to promote the safe and responsible use of mobile phones whilst on site attending any of our activities. Whilst we would prefer students not to have mobile phones and would rather students use the existing facilities within individual venues, we realise that this cannot cover the period when students are travelling to and from ensemble activity.

MOBILE PHONES - POLICY

Therefore, the following policy is in place for all ensemble activity:

- ▶ Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones/devices to rehearsals and concerts
- ▶ Students are reminded that they should speak with the Music Service staff in the first instance if they need to contact their parents
- ▶ Parents are reminded that only URGENT messages may be transmitted via Music Service staff whilst rehearsals or concerts are taking place.

If parents choose to permit mobile phone use at ensemble activity, then the following rules apply:

- ▶ The Music Service accepts no responsibility for mobile phones and undertakes no responsibility to investigate misplacement, loss or theft
- ▶ Mobile phones may not be used at any time during rehearsals or concerts
- ▶ Parents needing to contact students can do so, either by calling the Centre Manager with URGENT messages or by sending a text message to their child which can be checked in a break
- ▶ Mobile phones and accessories must always be switched off and out of sight when rehearsals and concerts are taking place. If a phone rings, or is seen by a member of staff, or if inappropriate use is made of the phone, it will be confiscated
- ▶ First offence will result in the student collecting the phone from the Centre Manager at the end of the rehearsal/concert
- ▶ If there is a subsequent offence then parents will be contacted to inform them of the confiscation and arrangements will be made for them to collect the item
- ▶ The only exemption to this is when the student has been given special permission to keep their telephone with them for specific health-related reasons
- ▶ Mobile phones which have a music or camera facility may only be used in rehearsals following EXPLICIT instruction to do so from a member of Music Service staff. If there is a confiscation and arrangements will be made for them to collect the item.

KEY STAGE 4 AND 5

It is recognised that older students should have some privileges regarding the use of mobile phones, so it is essential that they model the responsible use of such devices to their younger peers. The following represents the behaviours expected:

- ▶ Students should not walk around the site using phones during rehearsals and concerts and at break times in view of the younger students
- ▶ Mobile phones which have a music or camera facility may only be used in rehearsals following instruction to do so from a member of Music Service staff.

This policy is the same for all Key Stage 4 and 5 students across all ensemble activities.

DATA PROTECTION

By registering for Norfolk Music Service ensemble activities you agree that your details including your email address, name and child's school name may be used to inform you about Norfolk Music Hub and Music Service events, services and news that we feel are relevant to ensemble members. This may include specific opportunities and projects for children and young people, and updates to our services. These communications will comply with the standard procedures of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to ensure that the personal information that you give us is kept securely and processed fairly and lawfully. Your details will be kept in a secure location with Norfolk County Council servers for a maximum of 1 year and will be deleted in September 2023. The data controller on behalf of Norfolk Music Hub is Alison Bell, Head of Music Service. You can opt out of our direct communications at any time by contacting us by email music.service@norfolk.gov.uk. For further details please see our online privacy policy at www.norfolkmusichub.org.uk.



MAP OF REHEARSAL ROOMS AT CNS SCHOOL

THE FISHER BUILDING GROUND FLOOR PLAN.





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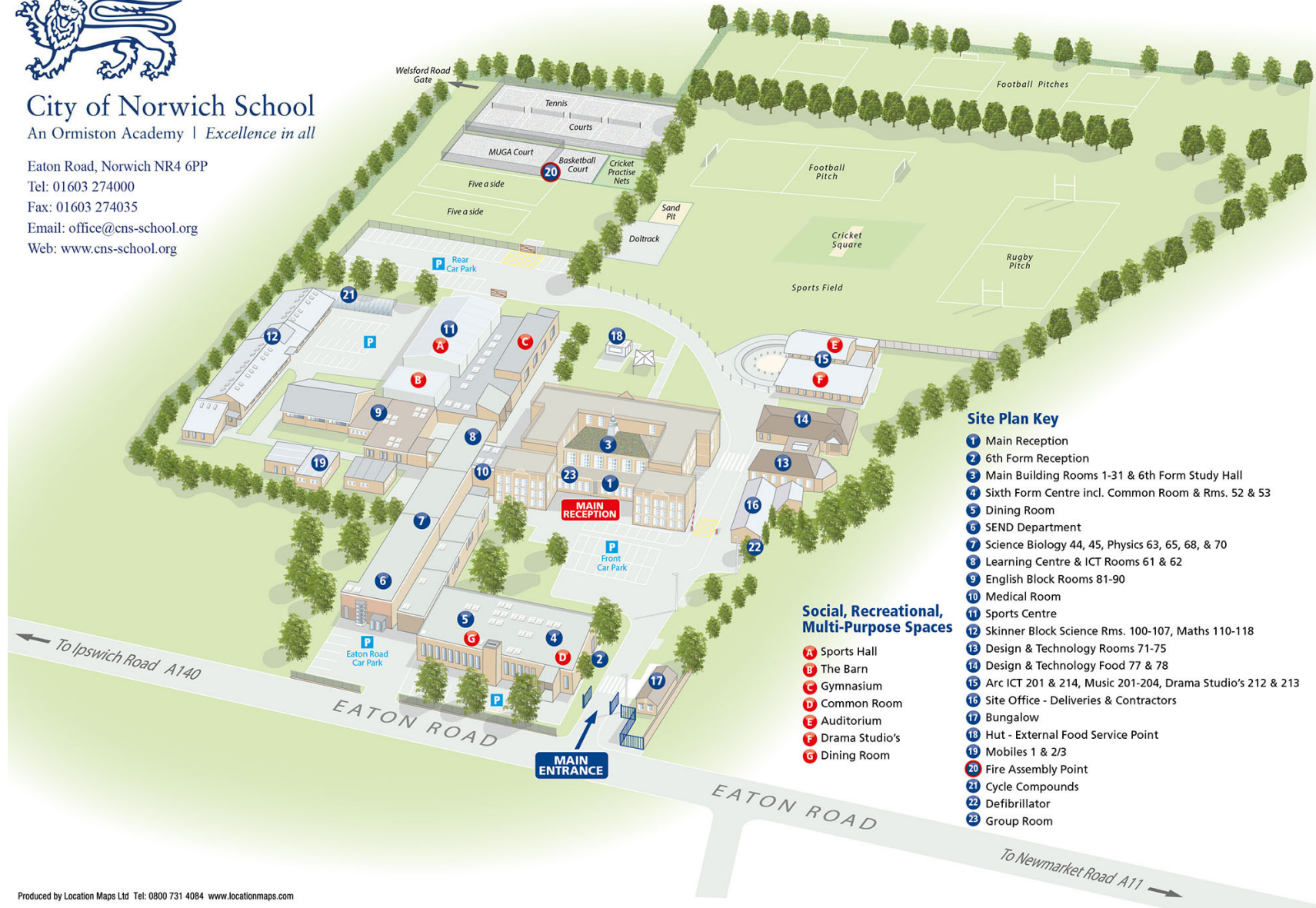
Eaton Road, Norwich NR4 6PP

Tel: 01603 274000

Fax: 01603 274035

Email: office@cns-school.org

Web: www.cns-school.org



Site Plan Key

- 1 Main Reception
- 2 6th Form Reception
- 3 Main Building Rooms 1-31 & 6th Form Study Hall
- 4 Sixth Form Centre incl. Common Room & Rms. 52 & 53
- 5 Dining Room
- 6 SEND Department
- 7 Science Biology 44, 45, Physics 63, 65, 68, & 70
- 8 Learning Centre & ICT Rooms 61 & 62
- 9 English Block Rooms 81-90
- 10 Medical Room
- 11 Sports Centre
- 12 Skinner Block Science Rms. 100-107, Maths 110-118
- 13 Design & Technology Rooms 71-75
- 14 Design & Technology Food 77 & 78
- 15 Arc ICT 201 & 214, Music 201-204, Drama Studio's 212 & 213
- 16 Site Office - Deliveries & Contractors
- 17 Bungalow
- 18 Hut - External Food Service Point
- 19 Mobiles 1 & 2/3
- 20 Fire Assembly Point
- 21 Cycle Compounds
- 22 Defibrillator
- 23 Group Room

Social, Recreational, Multi-Purpose Spaces

- A Sports Hall
- B The Barn
- C Gymnasium
- D Common Room
- E Auditorium
- F Drama Studio's
- G Dining Room

Produced by Location Maps Ltd Tel: 0800 731 4084 www.locationmaps.com

Norfolk Music Service Ensembles 2023/24

September 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	30	30			

December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Key:

- CNS ensembles
- Aylsham Cluster Ensemble
- Holidays



Supported using public funding by

