



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

NMSW Music Composition Workshops

An exciting opportunity has arisen for some students at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 to participate in a series of composition workshops that are taking place in Bristol.

This series is run by New Music in the South West (NMSW). It will involve an introductory workshop at Backwell School on Tuesday, 12 December, from 9.45 am to 12.45 pm, featuring ensemble performances, instrumental demonstrations and a question and answer session with professional performers.

Following the introductory workshop, there will be a choice of events and opportunities in which students will be able to engage, which will benefit them in their musical studies. This includes free entry to NMSW concerts, together with the chance to meet and talk to commissioned composers, including Hannah Kendall and Sadie Harrison.

The programme will also include one full day workshop with professional performers and award-winning composers, as well as a performance and recording of the students' music by professional musicians.

The workshops and concerts will be held on the following dates:

Introductory workshop	Tuesday, 12 December	Backwell School
Concerts	Sunday, 4 February	Bristol
	Sunday, 11 February	Bath
Full-day workshops	Wednesday, 31 January	Bristol Cathedral Choir School
	Sunday, 18 February	Bristol Grammar School
	Sunday, 25 February	Priory Park College, Bath
	Sunday, 4 March	King Edward's School; Bath
	Sunday, 11 March	Churchill Academy, North Somerset

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The NMSW workshop series is heavily subsidised, thanks to support from Arts Council England, The Ralph Vaughan Williams Trust and other benefactors. This means that it will cost only £35 per student, which includes the preliminary workshop, free entry to both concerts and one full day workshop (the cost before subsidisation would be over £200 per person).

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like your son/daughter to participate in the NMSW workshop programme, please visit www.parentpay.com, the school's online cashless payment, **by Monday, 11 December**. If you have any problems accessing the service, please contact the Finance Team on 01275 465941.

If your son/daughter is in Year 10 or 11 and is in receipt of free school meals, we will pay the cost of his/her participation from your personal allocation of Pupil Premium funding. In this instance, please complete the tear-off slip below and return it to the Finance Office as soon as possible **before Monday, 11 December**.

If your son/daughter is in Year 12 or 13, in cases of financial assistance, please contact Mrs Gumm, the Business Support Manager, who will be able to provide information regarding the 16-19 Bursary Fund. This is available to post-16 students who are in receipt of Free School Meals or whose parents/carers receive Child Tax Credit.

Yours sincerely

V Cooper D Salida B Mortimer
Music Department

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If your son/daughter is in receipt of free school meals, please return this slip to the Finance Department as soon as possible before Monday, 11 December.

NAME OF STUDENT: _____ TUTOR GROUP: _____

My son/daughter is in receipt of free school meals. I give permission for him/her to take part in the NMSW Music Composition Workshops. Please make payment of £35 on his/her behalf from my personal allocation of Pupil Premium funding.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Carer