



ELTHAM COLLEGE



Eltham College
Music Department
Senior School
Calendar 2026/27



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Eltham College
Community Orchestra



MUSIC
at Eltham College







Introduction From The Director of Music



Welcome to the Eltham College Music Department calendar for 2026/27. It is shaping up to be another wonderful year of music-making here at Eltham, with approaching 70 concerts and events just in the Senior School, and easily over 100 across the family of schools.

This year sees us make some larger-than-normal changes to our concert schedule, for two main reasons. Firstly, over the last few years the ever-increasing numbers of musicians at Eltham has meant that lots of our concerts have simply become too big in their current form, and therefore a rethink is required (this, in our Department, is what we call a 'good problem!'). Secondly, I am a big believer in keeping things fresh, and in always putting on events that feel new and exciting; this explains the changes to our flagship concerts this year.

The most visible changes will be the absence of a November Choral and Orchestral Concert, and of Blackheath Halls in March. We have decided to mix things up a little bit this Michaelmas, and will be putting on a large-scale event at Woolwich Works right at the end of term – our first ever Big Eltham Christmas Show. This should be a great event, consciously christmassy, giving a huge number of pupils the chance to perform in a great space and have a great time doing so. I am also incredibly excited to reveal that we will be taking our Symphony Orchestra, Choral Society and College Choir to Southwark Cathedral in April 2027. This will be a wonderful event, bringing some brilliant music to a truly inspirational space, and will be a new venue for all of our pupils. The sheer number of ensembles rehearsing each week, and the level at

which they are working, means that we have created Large Ensembles Concerts and Small Ensembles Concerts in addition to our flagship events. These will mean that all ensembles have at least three performance opportunities throughout the year, within events that give them the scope to perform multiple pieces. You will also see that our Celebration of Musical Theatre has, for the first time, been split into two separate concerts. This event has grown hugely in the last few years (in 2022 it involved 15 singers and a piano; 2026 saw an on-stage band of 28 and over 30 performances!). Chamber Music Week continues to grow under the guidance of our Head of Chamber Music Ms O'Leary and Assistant Head of Chamber Music Ms Pullen, with two internal concerts and a flagship event at the National Musician's Church in addition to a number of small-scale performances during the school day.

A number of regular events remain, with our tiered solo concerts offering the pupils a chance to gain valuable solo performances at whatever level they wish. Our Concerto Competition and Young Musician of the Year Final remain, setting the bar for top-level performance here, and Battle of the Bands is firmly in the calendar after a hugely successful introduction last year. Our Scholars' Concerts, as ever, give our music award holders the opportunity to push themselves further than ever in their solo performance, and Jazz Night, one of our most popular events, remains a staple in the calendar. Excitingly, Michaelmas term sees us team up with the Drama Department to stage a full musical once again, and we are hugely looking forward to working with them on this project.

As in previous years, we have organised our concerts within specific series, so that it is really clear what each of our many events actually *is*. For those looking for a very casual opportunity to get some performance practice ahead of an upcoming grade exam, for example, our Informal Concerts offer a relaxed concert perfectly suited for this. Those wishing to showcase advanced repertoire can enter our section Solo Platforms, and pupils looking to perform in our larger high-level ensembles concerts can look to our Celebration or Flagship concerts. Whatever you are after, do look to the series list, and there will surely be multiple events that fit!

All of our concerts are open to all, with parents, friends and guests warmly invited to attend. With the exception of our Flagship Concerts and our two Carols by Candlelight services, tickets are not required at any of our events; for information on our ticketed events please do contact the Music Office directly.

I very much look forward to seeing you at a number of these events over the coming academic year, and to seeing this wonderful Music Department continue to thrive. If you ever have any questions about anything to do with music here at Eltham, please reach out to us on music@eltham-college.org.uk.

S Johns

Sebastian Johns

Director of Music

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Concert Series

Senior School Concert Series

Flagship (large-scale ensembles concerts at external/one-off locations)

The Big Eltham Christmas Show @ Woolwich Works

Chamber Music Concert @ National Musicians' Church

Jazz Night

Choral & Orchestral Concert @ Southwark Cathedral

Elthambury 2K27

Chamber Choir; Monteverdi Vespers @ St Martin-in-the-Fields

Celebration Series (large-scale internal ensembles/solo concerts)

Year 7 ShowStoppers

Michaelmas Small Ensembles Concert

Celebration of Musical Theatre – Senior

Lent Large Ensembles Concert

Lent Small Ensembles Concert

Songs on a Summer's Evening

Celebration of Musical Theatre – Junior

Choral Services

Michaelmas Evensong

Remembrance Service

Carols by Candlelight I & II

Lent Evensong

Summer Compline

Solo Showcase (solo concerts for Music Scholars and Exhibitioners and/or auditionees)

Scholars' Concert I

Scholars' Concert II

Scholars' Concert III

Concerto Competition

Eltham College Young Musician of the Year Final

School Section Solo Platforms (open to all, circa Grade 5+, pupil/VMT sign-up)

Lower School Solo Platform

Middle School Solo Platform

Upper School Solo Platform

Informal Concerts (open to all, circa Grade 1-5, pupil/VMT sign-up)

Informal Concert 1

Informal Concert 2

Informal Concert 3

Chamber Music Week (small-scale chamber ensembles, organised by the relevant HoS)

A number of concerts across the week, showcasing the wide range of small-scale ensemble music happening at Eltham. This year's programme will be released in January 2026, but features as its highlight event our first ever Chamber Music Concert at the musically renowned Royal Overseas League.

House Events

House Music Prelims

House Music Competition (soloists and House Singing)

Workshop Series (ad hoc)

Section Workshops

Vocal Department Informal Concert

Music in the Gallery

Eltham College Student Music Society (ECSMS)

Ad hoc, student-organised Wednesday lunchtime concerts.





Music Calendar 2026/27

Michaelmas

August	Wednesday 26	Music pre-season - Symphony Orchestra	All day	Music Department
September	Tuesday 1	VMT INSED	10.30am	Music Department
	Wednesday 2 & Friday 4	Choir auditions	Various	Music Department
	Monday 7	All ensembles commence		
	Friday 11	GCSE Music - Parents' Information Evening	5pm	Old Library
	Saturday 19	Senior School Open Day	9am	Various
	Monday 21	House Music prelims	4pm	Music Department
	Wednesday 23	11+ Internal Music Scholarship auditions	All day	Chapel
	Monday 28	House Music Competition	From 1pm	Old Library & ABT
	Wednesday 30	Concerto Competition	6.30pm	Central Hall
October	Monday 5	Year 11 GCSE Performance Recital	6pm	Chapel
	Wednesday 7	Scholars' Concert I	6.30pm	Central Hall
	Wednesday 14	Year 7 ChartToppers	6pm	ABT
November	Monday 2 to Friday 6	Parents' Week 1 - Meet the VMT		Music Department
	Wednesday 4	Informal Concert 1	5.30pm	Old Library
	Wednesday 11	Remembrance Service	11am	Chapel
	Thursday 12	London lunchtime recital	1pm	St Mary-le-Strand, London
	Thursday 12	Upper School Solo Platform	6pm	Old Library
	Monday 16 to Friday 20	ABRSM/Trinity exams		Various
	Monday 16 to Friday 20	GCSE Ensemble performance recording week	Every day @ 5pm	Music Department
	Wednesday 18	Musical - Sitzprobe	1pm	ABT
	Thursday 19	16+ Music Scholarship auditions		Chapel
	Friday 20	Michaelmas Small Ensembles Concert	6.30pm	Chapel
	Thursday 26	Musical - Saturday 28th = matinée and evening performances	7pm	ABT
	Friday 27	Musical - Saturday 28th = matinée and evening performances	7pm	ABT
	Saturday 28	Musical - Saturday 28th = matinée and evening performances	2pm & 7pm	ABT
December	Wednesday 2	Carols by Candlelight I	7pm	Chapel
	Friday 4	Carols by Candlelight II	5pm	Chapel
	Friday 4	Choir Dinner	7pm	KGH/Old Library
	Thursday 10	The Big Eltham Christmas Show - Woolwich Works	7pm	Woolwich Works

Lent

January	Monday 18	Piano Department - project concert	5.30pm	TBC
	Thursday 21	Middle School Solo Platform	6pm	Old Library
	Wednesday 27	11+ External Music Scholarship auditions	All day	Chapel
	Friday 29	Celebration of Musical Theatre - Senior (Y11-13 soloists)	6.30pm	ABT
February	Wednesday 3	Languages X ECSMS	1pm	Central Hall
	Wednesday 3	Scholars' Concert II	6.30pm	Central Hall
	Friday 5	Lent Evensong	6pm	Chapel
	Monday 8 to Friday 12	Chamber Music Week	5.30pm	Music Department
	Tuesday 9	Chamber Music internal evening concert 1	5.30pm	
	Wednesday 10	Chamber Music internal evening concert 2	5.30pm	
	Thursday 11	Chamber Music Concert National Musicians' Church	7pm	Holy Sepulchre, London
	Saturday 27	Jazz Night	6.30pm	ABT
March	Tuesday 2	Informal Concert 2	5.30pm	Old Library
	Wednesday 3	Battle of the Bands	6pm	ABT
	Friday 12	Lent Large Ensembles Concert	7pm	KGH
	Monday 15 to Friday 19	ABRSM/Trinity exams		Various
	Monday 15	A Level Recital	6pm	Chapel
	Thursday 18	Lent Small Ensembles Concert	6.30pm	Chapel
	Monday 22	Eltham College Young Musician of the Year - Final	6pm	Central Hall

Summer

April	Wednesday 14	Music pre-season - Symphony Orchestra	All day	Music Department
	Wednesday 14	Joint rehearsal - College Choir & Choral Society	4pm	Chapel
	Saturday 17	Choral and Orchestral Concert Southwark Cathedral	6.30pm	Southwark Cathedral
	Wednesday 28	Songs on a Summer's Evening	6pm	Chapel
May	Friday 7	Celebration of Musical Theatre - Junior (Year 7-10 soloists)	7pm	ABT
	Monday 10	Informal Concert 3	6pm	Old Library
	Monday 10 to Friday 14	Parents' Week 2 - Meet the VMT		Music Department
June	Tuesday 8	Vocal Informal Concert	5.30pm	Old Library
	Wednesday 9	Scholars' Concert III	6.30pm	Central Hall
	Thursday 10	Lower School Solo Platform	6pm	Old Library
	Wednesday 16	Summer Compline	6pm	Chapel
	Monday 14 to Friday 18	ABRSM/Trinity exams		Various
	Friday 25	Elthambury rehearsals	4pm	Elthambury - Main Stage
	Saturday 26	Elthambury 2K27	All day	Various
	Wednesday 30	Symphony Orchestra Dinner	7pm	Quad/KGH
July	Friday 2	Chamber Choir; Monteverdi Vespers St Martin-in-the-Fields	6.30pm	St Martin-in-the-Fields
	Wednesday 9	Choir residential - Cambridge and Ely		



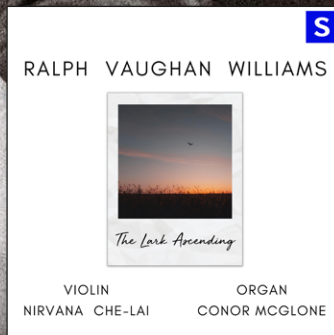
| Listen Now!

Eltham College's Music Department has multiple album releases available to listen to online, from studio jazz albums to brand-new classical arrangements.

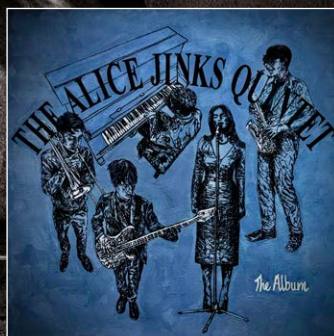
A Night in Tunisia



The Lark Ascending



Alice Jinks Quintet – The Album



Contact and Keep Up-to-Date

How to keep in contact

If you ever have any questions about anything to do with Music at Eltham, the first port of call is our Music Administrator, Mrs Lewis; she can be reached on music@eltham-college.org.uk

The Music Department maintains a regular presence on Instagram, and you can follow us on @ElthamCollegeMusic. If you would like to contact the Director of Music directly, Mr Johns' email address is saj@eltham-college.org.uk

All of our communication regarding concerts and events goes out via ElthamPost; this includes information about concerts and which pupils/ensembles are performing, upcoming events, and any one-off rehearsals etc.

NB: Our Visiting Music Teachers communicate directly with parents concerning anything to do with 1-1 lessons.

Music at Eltham – general information

We also publish a brochure that outlines the huge range of 1-1 and ensemble music-making that happens here at Eltham. If you would like more information on our ensemble programme, 1-1 music lessons, music in the Junior School, and more, please head to the Music page of the school website where you will be able to find this brochure.

 @ElthamCollegeMusic

ELTHAMBURY
CELEBRATION OF MUSIC



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