

CONCERT PROGRAMMES

These concerts will feature music from a variety of genres and are a culmination of the work SFE has been doing in schools and at ensemble centres throughout 2025.

There is something truly joyous about young people coming together to perform music and song - and nowhere is this more evident than at our annual Festive Concerts. We are in for a real treat as the next generation of talented musicians and singers from Birmingham schools take to the stage.

This year's concerts are particularly special as we welcome **Sarah Chatt**, our new **Head of Ensembles**. Sarah brings great experience and energy to the role, and we are thrilled to have her leading our ensembles programme as we continue to nurture Birmingham's young musical talent.

For many children performing tonight, this is their first concert with us. They follow in the footsteps of thousands of Birmingham schoolchildren who have performed locally and nationally. Last month, for example, our **Birmingham Schools' Symphony Orchestra (BSSO)** represented Birmingham at the **Music for Youth Proms** at London's **Royal Albert Hall**, joining young performers from across the country. The **BSSO** were chosen to be the anchor orchestra for the night to perform the world premiere of Aileen Sweeney's Causeway.

For me, this year is particularly meaningful as it marks my first year of concerts with **Services For Education**. Over the past twelve months, I have been inspired by the dedication of our young people, the passion of our music tutors, and the support of Birmingham's schools and partners - including **Arts Council England** and, fittingly, the **Ruddock Performing Arts Centre**.

Our Festive Concerts celebrate not only the season but also the remarkable achievements of everyone involved. I hope performers, audiences, and organisers alike have a truly memorable evening.

Season's greetings,

Richard Mabbott

Head of Music Service

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)
[Programme details](#)

Compere - Paul Douglas

Birmingham Schools' Double Reed Ensemble

Conductor: Lesley Morson

Sir Duke

Dance of the Mirlitons

Cantique de Noel

'Troika' from *Lieutenant Kije*

Stevie Wonder arr. Robert Ramskill

Tchaikovsky arr. David Bussick

Adolphe Adam arr. David Bussick

Sergei Prokofiev arr. David Bussick

Birmingham Schools' Guitar Sinfonia

Conductor: Adam Hickman

Andante and Menuett from Leichtes Trio

Mixit

Rapha

In the Bleak Midwinter

Leonhard von Call

Bob Power

Laurent Meneret

Gustav Holst, arr. Dan Jones

Birmingham Schools' Training Orchestra

Conductor: Matthew Ludford-King

We Will Rock You

'Pure imagination' From *Wonka*

Old Town Road

Mercury, May arr.

Bricusse, Newley arr. Paul Murtha

Reznor, Ross, Roukema, Lamar-Hill arr. Johnnie
Vinson

INTERVAL

Birmingham Schools' Training Brass Band

Conductor: David Taylor

Fanfare Opener

Promised Land

Past Time With Good Company

Amarillo

Alan Pring

William Broughton

Henry VIII arr. Matt Kingston

Neill Sedaka and Howard Greenfield arr. Alan
Ferne

Services For Education

Birmingham Schools' Brass Band

Conductor: Saphran Ali

Call of the Brave

Baggy Trousers

Out of Africa

March-Christmas Joy

Coventry Carol

A Chichester Prelude

Jacob Vilhelm Larsen

Madness arr. Alan Fernie

John Barry arr. Alan Fernie

Erik Leidzen trs. Ray Steadman-Allen

Trad. arr. Andrew Blyth

Jonathan Bates

[List of ensembles and schools playing tonight](#)

Birmingham Schools' Double Reed Ensemble

Birmingham Schools' Guitar Sinfonia

Birmingham Schools' Training Orchestra

Birmingham Schools' Training Brass Band

Birmingham Schools' Brass Band

[*Photography/Filming Guidance For Parents/Carers and Concert Attendees - Please Read*](#)

This information is for concert attendees who do not work for Services For Education.

1. Services For Education will not take and use identifiable images of children and young people (under 18 years old) without permission from a parent/carers to do so.
2. Parents/carers are asked annually to accept our SFE filming and photography policy. Changes can be made to the permissions at any time in the year using the ensembles portal.
3. At events we ask parents/carers to be mindful of other children and ensure photos are only for personal use. Should you wish to share a photograph on social media, it must be a long-range photograph that doesn't clearly identify any other children/ young people.
4. Please check your privacy settings on your social media account to understand who else will be able to view any images they share.
5. Where photographs are taken at an event attended by large crowds (a concert or awards event for example), this is regarded as a public area, so it is not necessary to get permission of everyone in a crowd shot. However, we will always gain permission from parents/carers for any children who appear and are identifiable in these images.
6. If you have any concerns about images being shared, please contact us at marketing@servicesforeducation.co.uk or if you have any questions relating to data protection please contact the company's Data Protection Officer, tel: (0)121 366 9950, email dpo@servicesforeducation.co.uk

[Programme details](#)

Compere - Richard Mabbott

Birmingham Schools' Raga and Tala Ensemble

Leaders: Gurdeep Singh-Dharni and Harjinder Singh Matharu

Raga Kirvani Vilambit Gat in Teentala
Raga Kirvani Drut Gat in Teentala

Gurdeep Singh Dharni & Harjinder Singh Matharu
Gurdeep Singh Dharni & Harjinder Singh Matharu

Birmingham Schools' Guitar Ensemble

Conductor: Nick Chamberlain

Swing 42
Mbira
Techno

Django Reinhardt arr. Nick Chamberlain
William Kanengiser
Jürg Kindle

Birmingham Schools' String Sinfonia

Conductor: William Cheung

Abdelazer Suite Z.570

I. Overture
II. Rondeau
III. Air
IV. Air
V. Minuet
VI. Air
VII. Jig
VIII. Hornpipe
IX. Air

Henry Purcell

INTERVAL

Birmingham Schools' Recorder Sinfonia

Conductor: Michelle Holloway

Birmingham Schools' Wind Orchestra

Conductor: Tom Stoneman

Felicitous

West Side Story

Sleigh Ride

A Christmas Festival

Frederich Sheldurup

Leonard Bernstein arr. Naohiro Iwai

Leroy Anderson

Leroy Anderson

[List of ensembles and schools playing tonight](#)

Birmingham Schools' String Sinfonia

Birmingham Schools' Raga and Tala

Birmingham Schools' Guitar Ensemble

Birmingham Schools' Recorder Sinfonia

Birmingham Schools' Wind Orchestra

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