



The Sage Gateshead

Weekend School 2006-07



Are you:

Passionate about music?

Ready to work hard to develop your skills?

Looking for top quality tuition and a broad musical training?

Wanting to perform with other young musicians as committed as you?

Keen to explore different styles of music?

The Sage Gateshead's Weekend School could be what you are looking for.



Introduction

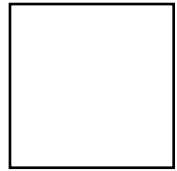
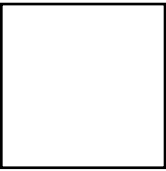
The Sage Gateshead's Weekend School offers a programme of top quality provision for the most talented and committed young musicians of the Northeast and Cumbria. In line with our whole programme, the Weekend School welcomes learners from all styles of music (classical, jazz, folk, world and popular music) across a wide range of instruments and voice, a unique feature among the present provision in the UK.

Our tutors are outstanding professional musicians and music educators from the region and beyond, covering a wide range of genres and expertise. The rich performance programme of The Sage Gateshead provides extraordinary opportunities for Weekend School students through an extensive workshop programme with our own and visiting artists.

The Weekend School is open to those students, aged seven to nineteen, who love music and are ready to commit themselves to their musical development. They are selected through a process of audition and reference which aims to spot potential as well as to recognise achievement. The Weekend School programme has been structured to allow students to continue their involvement with the musical life of their schools and local communities, who in turn will greatly benefit from the growth of their young musicians.

The Weekend School is one strand of The Sage Gateshead's extensive Learning and Participation programme, which offers a broad regional range of activities for music lovers of all ages and tastes.

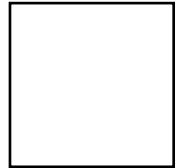




Curriculum and structure

The Weekend School programme is delivered primarily at weekends during term time, with some after-school opportunities; its integrated curriculum includes, according to age and the individual needs of each student, some or all of the following:

- 1:1 lessons on 1st instrument (including voice)
- 2nd instrument tuition
- Music Language, Harmony, Composition and Arrangement
- Improvisation (all genres)
- Ensemble (including regional youth ensembles)
- Choir
- Masterclasses, workshops and concert tickets
- Performances, including lunch time concerts and three annual festivals



For each student an individual learning programme is prepared in consultation with them and their parents/carers and teachers, with a mentor assigned to act as a personal counsellor. We encourage students to explore and learn from the unique approaches of different music styles, while being able to focus on a single genre where that best suits their creative needs. We understand that different instruments and genres may demand a different balance of provision and some aspects of our curriculum may already be available at a high standard to individuals at school or LEA level; we also recognise that some new students should continue with their previous teacher, where he or she is approved as a Weekend School associate tutor.



The programme is structured in three phases which students may join at any point:

P1 (age 7-11)

Students are accepted here according to their potential to follow an enjoyable but serious and dedicated music programme, which will help them experience the joy of making music through singing and playing, while establishing a solid music foundation.

Content: Instrument, Ensemble, Music Language, Choir.

Involvement: 4 h per week, 30 weeks per year.

P2 (age 11-14)

This full and demanding programme encourages students to explore a range of styles while developing their musical and technical skills, with solo and ensemble performance central to that development.

Content: 1st and 2nd Instrument, Ensemble, Music Language, Improvisation, Choir, Workshops. Some of the programme is weekly, some not.

Involvement: 4-6 h per week, 30 weeks per year.

P3 (age 14-19)

This programme is designed for those students for whom a future professional involvement in music will be a realistic possibility. They are encouraged to acquire the technical, practical, creative and theoretical experience necessary to express themselves through music.

These students will often be members of our regional youth ensembles and are likely to be taking music at GCSE, AS or A2, for which they will get plenty of support within the programme.

Content: 1st and 2nd Instrument, Ensemble, Harmony, Composition and Arrangement, Improvisation, Workshops. Some of the programme is weekly, some not.

Involvement: 5-7 h per week, 30 weeks per year.



These models describe the maximum provision that an individual might receive at The Sage Gateshead.



Fees and funding

The Weekend School fees, which cover roughly half of the actual cost, have been significantly subsidised by The Sage Gateshead's core funding and by The David Goldman Programme.

The yearly fees for full participation in the programme in 06/07 are:

P1: £1500

P2: £2250

P3: £3000

We recognise that these fees still represent a considerable cost for a family, and The Sage Gateshead is committed to the principle that, where possible, no young person should be financially unable to take up the offer of a place at our Weekend School.

Full-time members are able to apply for financial support - including support for travel costs where distance might present a barrier to participation - from a national programme administered by the DfES Music and Dance Scheme. (The Sage Gateshead's Weekend School is the only programme in the Northeast and Cumbria eligible for this support for young musicians.) Some students may be able to obtain support from local sources or to apply for direct support from The David Goldman Programme at The Sage Gateshead. We cannot guarantee financial support, but undertake to do all we can to reduce financial barriers.

Application and audition information

Applications for 2006-07 should be received by **3rd April 2006**. Prior to that, candidates are encouraged to come to our Open Days (see back page). Suitable candidates will be invited to audition between 22nd April and 7th May 2006. Successful candidates will hear by mid June, with places subject to an agreed learning plan. Unsuccessful candidates will hear at the same time. Current Weekend School members do not need to re-audition, subject to assessment.

In the audition we will hear something of what candidates have achieved so far, but more important will be their potential to develop as young musicians. During the audition candidates will be asked to:

- play or sing two contrasting pieces of their choice on their principal instrument or voice
- play two scales and arpeggios of their choice
- repeat a passage or scale in a particular way
- sight read or play back by ear a melody of a difficulty appropriate to their experience
- take an unprepared aural test
- talk about the place music has in their lives.

Candidates should try to perform at least one of their pieces from memory, and they may include improvisation. There is no specific length for pieces and candidates may not be required to complete them.

Those who need an accompanist may bring their own or use ours, in which case they should let us know as early as possible and send the accompaniment well before the audition.



Weekend School Application Form 2006-07

First Name _____ Surname _____

Date of Birth _____ Age on Sept 1st 2006 Years Months

Address _____

Telephone _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

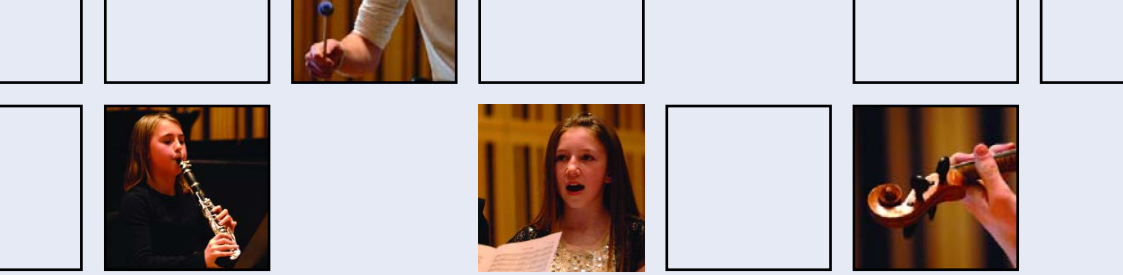
Instrument/Voice _____

Second Instrument (if any) _____

Instrument Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Contact Telephone _____

Teacher's Address _____



How long have you studied your instrument/voice?

Please give us a brief indication of your standard of playing/singing.
(If you have taken any exams, tell us the grade and mark of your latest)

Which orchestras, bands, choirs or small groups do you perform in?

What are your musical interests?

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

We will contact you to confirm the date of your audition.

Please return this form to Alexandra Marsden (Weekend School Coordinator) by **3rd April 2006**.
The Sage Gateshead, St Mary's Square, Gateshead Quays, Gateshead, NE8 2JR



Weekend School Open Days

The Weekend School Open Days will take place on **Sun 5th Feb, 5th and 12th March**. They provide an opportunity to students, parents/guardians and teachers to find out more about the Weekend School and will include practical workshops for the students. Pre-booking is necessary.

For Weekend School general enquiries and Open Days bookings contact

Alexandra Marsden, Weekend School Coordinator

Direct Line: 0191 443 4675 e-mail: alexandra.marsden@thesagegateshead.org

Weekend School Spring Festival: Sat 25th March 06, 11am–7pm

Regional Youth Ensembles

The Sage Gateshead runs five remarkable Regional Youth Ensembles, offering superb learning and performance opportunities for young instrumentalists and vocalists in a wide range of musical styles: **Young Sinfonia** (chamber orchestra), **Folkestra** (folk band), **Jambone** (jazz big-band), **Katabatic Winds** (wind orchestra) and **Quay Voices** (chamber choir). In 06/07 a **Steel Pan Band** will be added to the current provision. Weekend School students who wish to join them need to apply and audition separately and, if successful, their participation in the Youth Ensembles will be part of their Weekend School programme. The deadline for applications is the 22nd May 06 and the auditions will take place at the end of June and beginning of July. For more information please contact:

Folkestra or Jambone:

Gillian Walsh, 0191 443 4589 e-mail: gillian.walsh@thesagegateshead.org

Young Sinfonia, Katabatic Winds, Quay Voices or Steel Pan Band:

Jacqui Cameron, 0191 443 4671 e-mail: jacqui.cameron@thesagegateshead.org

Regional Youth Ensembles Gala Concert: Sun 26th March 06, 7pm



The Sage Gateshead is proud to support the aims of the Music Manifesto

The Sage Gateshead, St Mary's Square, Gateshead Quays, Gateshead, NE8 2JR
Switchboard: 0191 443 4666

