

Whitby Music Centre

Music Centre Manager – Ralph Alder

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Ensembles

Esk Valley Concert Band	9.30 – 10.45
Mistral (Wind Group)	11.00 – 12.15
Esk Valley Big Band	11.00 – 12.15
Whitby Area Concert Band	11.00 – 12.15
Whitby Area Youth Strings	11.00 – 12.15
Wider Opportunities Whitby	9.30 – 10.45
Choir	9.30 – 10.45

Esk Valley Concert Band

This ensemble welcomes the full range of Woodwind, Brass and percussion instruments and is commonly fifty strong. The entry level to the Band is around grade four. Its flexible format allows it to tackle almost any style of music including Jazz, Rock, Pop, Film, Classical and Folk. We give several concerts each year mostly in and around Whitby and sometimes further afield.

Esk Valley Big Band

The Big Band have a full complement of trumpets, trombones and Saxophones with a strong rhythm section. Any players at grade four and above who plays any of these instruments is welcome. They play contemporary Big Band repertoire as well as well material from as far back as the forties. The band was formed quite recently but has already attracted attention in the area and has a number of future bookings.

Junior Concert Band

The Junior Concert Band accepts Woodwind and Brass players at around grade one level. It provides valuable experience in ensemble playing using the same range of styles as the Senior Concert Band. Valuable skills are learned in this ensemble which every member can carry forward in their future music making. On average the Band performs twice each term at various local venues.

Whitby Area Youth Strings

This group offers String players of beginner status to advanced the chance to play together. We do include tuition in orchestral skills and general string playing techniques in our rehearsals.

As well as orchestral works the group explores a wide range of styles and performs regularly throughout the year.

Wider Opportunities Whitby

In order to accommodate the growing numbers of children learning through the “Wider Opportunities” programme this group (known as “WOW”) cater for participants in this scheme. The scheme gives its members a basic knowledge and the foundation practical skills connected with their chosen instrument. Appropriate music is chosen. Membership of this group offers the players the chance to play with and meet children from other schools and experience performance opportunities they would not otherwise get.

Choir

We are very proud of our choral tradition at Whitby Music Centre. As well as specialist singers everyone at the music Centre is given the opportunity to sing in the Choir. This is because it rehearses immediately before the other ensembles start. Instrumental members can thus start the day with a sing and then move straight on to their respective instrumental groups. As well as producing enjoyable music this is an excellent way to train the musical mind.

Woodwind group (Mistral)

The Woodwind group accepts orchestral woodwind at grade 4 and above and although the name of the group suggests that no brass can play in this group it does include French Horns. Pieces in every style can be performed by this type of ensemble and to press we have played music in genres such as Jazz, Folk, Classical and Baroque.

Rehearsals take place on Saturday mornings during term time. For further information please contact Mr Ralph Alder, Centre Manager, at the address above.