



26 January 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians

National Schools Symphony Orchestra (NSSO) courses

The National Schools Symphony Orchestra (NSSO) is one of the UK's pre-eminent youth orchestras. NSSO was founded in 1994 and has been hosted and operated by Malvern College since 2016.

Each year NSSO provides a one-week residential course for three orchestras of different ability ranges, with individual sectional coaching provided by a team of expert tutors and conductors, recruited largely from specialist music schools, conservatoires and professional orchestras. Many of our tutors are recognised nationally (and in some cases internationally) as the best in their field.

This year's NSSO courses will be taking place at the College as follows:

NSSO Academy (guideline age range 8-12; ability range grades 3-5): 1st – 7th April

NSSO Sinfonia (age 12-15, grades 5-7): 1st – 7th April

NSSO Philharmonic (age 15-18, grade 7+): 7th – 13th July

These courses are an excellent opportunity for young musicians to gain valuable orchestral experience, and a great way to meet fellow musicians from across the country. Many older NSSO players go on to play with the National Youth Orchestra and to continue their musical education at conservatories.

Entry to NSSO is by video audition and we are pleased to be able to offer any current College pupil a £100 discount on the full fees (£850). Further information is available on the NSSO website: www.nssso.org, or from Bernadette Wood, the NSSO Administrator, on hello@nssso.org.

Yours sincerely

Allan Walker

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