

# Berkshire Young Musician of the Year 2026 Competition

## *(Strings)* Terms & Conditions

- Entry fees are not refundable.
- Entrants for each category must be within the age limits of that category based upon what their age will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 (the date of the final). Please refer to the age category information on the website for full details.
- Entry to the competition is strictly regulated to String players aged 18 or under on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 and who can tick at least one of the following criteria:
  - A permanent resident of Berkshire
  - Attending a school within Berkshire
  - Currently receiving instrumental tuition within the county of Berkshire
- The closing date for entries is 5:00pm Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Late entries will only be accepted in extenuating circumstances, in consultation with the Head of Strings, whose decision is final.
- The competition entries and performances in each round will be assessed by a panel of judges based on their interpretation of the performance submitted. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into over this decision. Feedback will be provided where appropriate in each round.
- Competitors may perform the same pieces in the first round and semi-final if they are successful however the piece must be different for the final of the competition.
- Competitors will have a time limit for their pieces in all rounds. You must stick within your time limit to avoid disqualification. For the first round, these are below:  
**FIRST ROUND:**
  - Ages 9 & under = 1 piece lasting no longer than 4 minutes
  - Ages 10-12 = 1 piece lasting no longer than 5 minutes
  - Ages 13-15 = 1 piece lasting no longer than 6 minutes
  - Ages 16-18 = 1 piece lasting no longer than 8 minutes
  - Students will be required to play 2 contrasting pieces for the live semi final and final
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**SEMI FINAL & FINAL:**
  - Students will be required to play 2 contrasting pieces for the live semi final and final
- The first round will be via video. Please contact us on [bymadmin@berksmusictrust.org.uk](mailto:bymadmin@berksmusictrust.org.uk) if you have any questions. You will not be penalized for playing unaccompanied and judges will take any unavoidable factors due to it being a video round into consideration.
- You will need to provide your own accompanist for the semi-final and final if you are successful, we will be able to send you a list of accompanists you can contact.
- In the event that a prize-winner is disqualified from the competition, the judges will select an alternative prize-winner and such selection will be subject to these terms and conditions.
- Official photographs of the event will be taken in line with the consent given on our online entry form. You may withdraw this consent at any future date in writing by e-mailing us at [bymadmin@berksmusictrust.org.uk](mailto:bymadmin@berksmusictrust.org.uk).
- Guidelines set out in the Berkshire Music Trust Child Protection Policy will apply throughout the competition and to all involved in the competition. Copies of this policy are available via Berkshire Music Trust website.
- Guidelines set out in the Berkshire Music Trust Privacy Policy will apply throughout the competition and to all involved in the competition. Copies of this policy are available via Berkshire Music Trust website.
- Entry into the competition is deemed to be acceptance of these terms and conditions.