

PDMC Beginner Strings Workshop The Octagon, Buxton, Friday 4 April 2025

Dear Head Teacher/Music Lead

Thank you for signing up to our Strings Workshop on Friday 4 April at The Octagon, Buxton.

Music and preparation

The workshop will be led by our Strings ensemble directors (Sophie Sully, Gavin Usher and Jason Curteis) and supported by some of our most accomplished young musicians.

There will be a number of musical games and activities and the participants will rehearse together two pieces to perform at the short 'Sharing Session' at the end of the event. If your pupils have time to have a look at these pieces ahead of the event that would be great. Music for this will be added to our event web page <https://www.pdmc.org.uk/strings2025> very soon and we will e-mail to let you know that it's available. This page can also be accessed from the Events tab of our main website and you are welcome to share it with music teachers etc to help prepare for the event.

Logistical information

Arrival time- As noted on our invitation letter, we would like schools to arrive between 1.10pm and 1.20pm, to be seated and ready to start at 1.30pm. We would like schools to enter using the doors directly in to the Octagon from the Promenade. Our team will be there to welcome you.

Event finish/leaving the Octagon- The event will finish at 3.00pm. If some of our pupils will be collected by parents at the end of the event can you please let parents know the arrangements for collecting them/signing them out.

Sharing session- The event will finish with a short sharing session for parents/carers from 2.50pm to 3.00pm. We would love you to invite parents/carers to come along and have attached a letter that you can use if you wish. There is no charge for this and no tickets required but due to numbers we will have to limit the audience to two (not including younger siblings that parents may need to bring) per participating child. We would like parents to enter via the Octagon Lounge (there will be signs on the day) where they will be able to wait until they are admitted to the performance area.

What to bring- Pupils should bring their instruments and may bring a refillable water bottle if they wish. **Due to participants with allergies can you please ask that no-one brings any food containing nuts.**

Accompanying adults- Schools will be responsible for supervising their pupils and may bring as many adults as needed. We do not require that schools bring their CIL deliverer, although they would be very welcome.

Toilets- The only toilets available will be the public toilets at the Octagon (up the stairs opposite the Buxton Cinema, or accessible toilets by the Icecream Parlour). We will show you where these are when you arrive.

Instruments- Pupils will each need to have their own instrument to bring to the workshop. The workshop will be tailored to the instruments and number of children that schools have indicated on

their sign up form. If you wish to bring any additional instruments and/or additional pupils please contact us in advance.

Transport- We are not able to provide transport to and from this event but there is parking at the venue for any schools who wish to bring a mini-bus or arrange their own coach.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact me at admin@pdmc.org.uk or 07798 714825.

Yours faithfully

Marion Redman
PDMC Administrator

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PDMC Beginner Strings Workshop The Octagon, Buxton, Friday 4 April 2025 Invitation to Sharing Session

Dear Parent/carer

We are very pleased that your child will be taking part, with their school, in our Beginner Strings Workshop on the afternoon of Friday 4 April 2025.

This will be a great chance to have some fun playing music with other young people. Your school will let you know about arrangements for transporting pupils to and from the event and/or collecting children afterwards.

We would love to invite you to come along and watch our short 'Sharing Session' at the end of the workshop. This will be at 2.50pm at the Octagon, Buxton. There is no charge and no tickets are needed but due to the number of participants we are limiting places to 2 per child. This does not include younger siblings etc that parents may need to bring with them.

We would like anyone coming to watch to enter via the Octagon Lounge (the space between the Icecream Parlour and the Octagon, just follow the signs on the day). Our team will be there to show you where to go. We will not be able to admit parents/carers to the Octagon Lounge before 2.45pm but the café in the building will be open for anyone who needs to arrive earlier.

Due to workshop participants with allergies, can we please ask you not to bring any snacks containing nuts with you.

If you have any questions about this event please speak to your school or contact admin@pdmc.org.uk

Best wishes

Marion Redman
PDMC Administrator