

ROCK and POP

Adjudicator: Ben Whyntie

Ben Whyntie is a drummer based in Portsmouth.

Having started his musical career on the trombone at an early age, Ben began drum lessons, aged 12, after impressing his parents on a drum kit whilst on a family holiday in Jersey. Only a year later he took his Grade 8 exam passing with honours under the tuition of John Hammond.

Influenced by drummers such as Tres Cool (Green Day), Travis Barker (Blink 182) and Dave Grohl (Nirvana), Ben soon began playing in various bands at school and found himself at home sat behind the kit, leading the band from the back of the stage. With a degree from the Royal College of Music under his belt, Ben is now an active session drummer both in the studio and on stage. In the studio he has played on tracks for Dave Jones, Lyndsey Lang, Matt Benham, Music To Drive Tanks To, Van Laun and Adam Robson.

Ben has played live extensively throughout the UK and Europe and has played at some of the biggest festivals including Glastonbury, Bestival, Big Chill, Fusion and Sziget.

Currently, Ben can be found behind the kit touring and recording as a full time member of alt-rockers Oxygen Thief and playing regularly with function bands Decade and Victoriana.

Head of Section: Claire Blundell

PLEASE NOTE:

- a) Entrants are asked to provide all their own instruments, leads and FX units. The festival will provide backline, electric piano/organ and PA equipment. Guitarists, bassists and keyboard players **MUST** use the amplification provided (courtesy of Nevada music). Singers, wind players must use the provided microphones. Drummers must use the provided kit. Drummers may change kick pedal and cymbals if time allows.
- b) All entrants will be given 5 minutes to set up and sound check with the sound engineer. If the sound engineer deems that more time is required through no fault of the band then this will be allowed.
- c) No entrant is to borrow equipment from other entrants unless they come from the same school/teacher and the teacher in charge is in agreement.

There are 3 Sections to the programme: KS3, KS4 and open section.

Each section is open to bands of the appropriate age. No member of any band must exceed the age limit for the section. In each section there will be adjudications for best of section in the categories:

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|-------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| ◆ Guitarist | ◆ Drummer | ◆ Best ensemble work | ◆ Best solo/duo |
| ◆ Bassist | ◆ Singer | ◆ Best Band | ◆ Best original song |

In each section bands will be asked to play a rock/pop song of their own choice. This music should demonstrate to the adjudicator the skills, ensemble playing and enjoyment of the music by all band members.

Saturday 10th March

Warblington School, Southleigh Road, Havant PO9 2RR.

The list of entrants will be provided on a separate sheet at the venue on the day of the competition.

Thanks to Guitar Centre Southsea for providing the shields for the 'best' categories.

FESTIVAL HELPERS NEEDED!

We need lots of helpers to ensure the smooth running of the whole Festival: scribes in the halls, door and hall stewards, messengers and at the reception desk.

If you can spare a couple of hours (or more!) during the Festival, please contact Sandra Lawlor on 07500 060890.