



## English National Opera's free schools' music programme *Finish This...* now open for applications

English National Opera (ENO) is now inviting applications for *Finish This...*, its free\*, national music-making programme for Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and SEND learners, for the 2026-27 academic year. The programme offers schools an opportunity to take part in a creative, collaborative music project designed to inspire young people and develop their musical skills.

*Finish This...* invites pupils to take on the role of ENO composer, creating their own musical response to a specially commissioned, purposefully unfinished operatic work. It aims to inspire young composers across the country by bringing a fusion of opera, film and animation into schools, as inspiration for collaborative composition work.

The programme, which launched as a pilot project for KS2 learners in 2021-2022, is open to all primary, secondary and SEND schools across England. Co-created with teachers, the project aligns with the national curriculum and is suitable for all levels of experience and musical ability.

According to post-project surveys, after completing *Finish This...* **89%** of teachers said they felt more confident teaching composition, and **93%** felt that their pupils had developed skills in composition. **96%** of teachers felt that their pupils had increased their skills in teamwork and collaboration, and **100%** of teachers rated the teaching resources as either Good or Extremely Good.

One Key Stage 2 teacher said of their pupils' involvement:

*"Finish This... has completely raised the profile of composing in our school... It was the most exciting project, broke down so many barriers and was completely inclusive."*

Each year, ENO partners with selected music services across the country to offer schools in these areas additional in-person opportunities, including in-person teacher training and in-person end of project celebration events for pupils. For the 2026-27 academic year, *Finish This...* will be partnering with **One Education**, the music service for Manchester, as well as continuing pre-existing partnerships with **Bolton Music Service**, **Wigan Music Service**, **Kent Music**, **Luton Music Service** and **South Coast Music Partnership**.

More than **18,500** students took part in the *Finish This...* programme during the 2025-26 academic year, with ENO aiming to reach **25,000** pupils during the 2026-27 academic year.



**Application deadline:** Friday 10 July 2026

**Eligibility:** KS2, KS3 and SEND learners

**How to Apply:**

Schools can apply using the following booking form: [www.eno.org/engage/finish-this-booking-page/](http://www.eno.org/engage/finish-this-booking-page/)

Further Information: [www.eno.org/engage/schools-young-people/finish-this/](http://www.eno.org/engage/schools-young-people/finish-this/)

*\*Finish This... is free for state schools across England. Independent schools are invited to participate at a cost of £200 per class.*

-ENDS-

**Notes to Editors:**

**For more information, please contact:**

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**About *Finish This...*:**

- *Finish This...* is ENO's flagship schools programme supporting high-quality music-making in classrooms across England
- The programme is free of charge for state schools. Independent schools are welcome to apply to take part at a charge of £200 per class
- Compositions submitted to the project all receive personalised feedback from ENO and are displayed on ENO's website on our celebration pages
- See below for more information about the following strands:
  - [KS2 primary](#)
  - [KS3 secondary](#)
  - [SEND schools](#)

Provided by English National Opera, schools receive and have access to:

- Teacher learning resource pack
- Operatic music performed by the world-class Orchestra and Chorus of ENO
- Composition toolkit, with digital and printed resources delivered to the school
- Online CPD and briefings for teachers, introducing the toolkit and new approaches to making music in the classroom.

**Photos:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/co7ue02s0uj59ns3iq726/AD7hpWJU30uil8AX8uS1ufc?rlkey=5uar3hbimax1uz3w6ggf3d1d6&st=o2ikd02p&dl=0>

**Video Trailers:**

For SEND and KS2 school curriculum:

<https://youtu.be/CZ1QS970RSM?si=1oVEUOxawXorzxGX>

For secondary schools: <https://youtu.be/Xy3FDZtyRD0?si=kl1Yubh-d1wnmNke>

**About English National Opera:**

English National Opera (ENO) is one of the UK's leading opera companies, dedicated to creating extraordinary encounters with opera, on stage and beyond. Performing in English and presenting bold, imaginative productions in an inclusive environment, ENO brings together outstanding artists, musicians and creative teams to tell powerful stories to the widest possible audience.

ENO is a dual-centre opera company, presenting a season at the iconic London Coliseum every year alongside dynamic work in Greater Manchester as part of its pioneering partnership with the city-region. Across the country, ENO runs a wide-ranging programme of learning, participation, creative health and community engagement that supports emerging talent and opens opera to people of all ages and backgrounds.

Founded in 1931 as Sadlers Wells Opera, ENO has played a central role in the cultural life of the nation for more than 90 years.

English National Opera, creating opera without limits.

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