

Royal Grammar School

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Wednesday 6 November 2023

Dear Parents,

The Classic FM Music Teacher of the Year Awards

Many of you will know about the RGS String Scheme, which has introduced primary-aged children to the joys of learning string instruments for more than a decade. We are delighted to say that Dale Chambers, the founder and leader of the RGS String Scheme has been shortlisted for a national award – The Classic FM award for ‘Best Music Learning Initiative.’

Dale Chambers has been the inspiration and energy behind the scheme which, working in partnership with local Primary Schools Boxgrove, Sandfield and St Thomas of Canterbury, has started over 1000 youngsters on their journey of making music on the violin and cello. In order to achieve this Dale has raised thousands of pounds working with generous and passionate sponsors such as The Surrey Hills International Music Festival, The Southern Pro Musica Orchestra, The Community Foundation for Surrey, The Mila Charity and The Sheryl King Trust. The Scheme has attracted national publicity in the past with interest from Government Ministers, featured in European String Teachers Association courses and on national television. A fundamental principle of the scheme is inclusivity and, in addition to providing instruments and lesson to whole year groups in school, also provides free tuition and help with continuing their learning and musical journey with access to orchestras and individual lessons.

Please support Dale and the Scheme by voting for him to encourage more sponsors to support this fantastic venture.

Here is the link to view and vote for the shortlisted entries:

[Classic FM Music Teacher of the Year Awards 2023](#)

and a short clip of the RGS String Scheme in action, playing side by side with a professional orchestra:

[RGS String Scheme.mov](#)

To vote in the competition, you do have to register with Classic FM through the website/link, and you receive a message which says, ‘thank you for entering the competition’! But rest assured that you have done the right thing.

Meanwhile, thanks for all your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Tom Shimell
Assistant Head (Partnerships)