



Contact us

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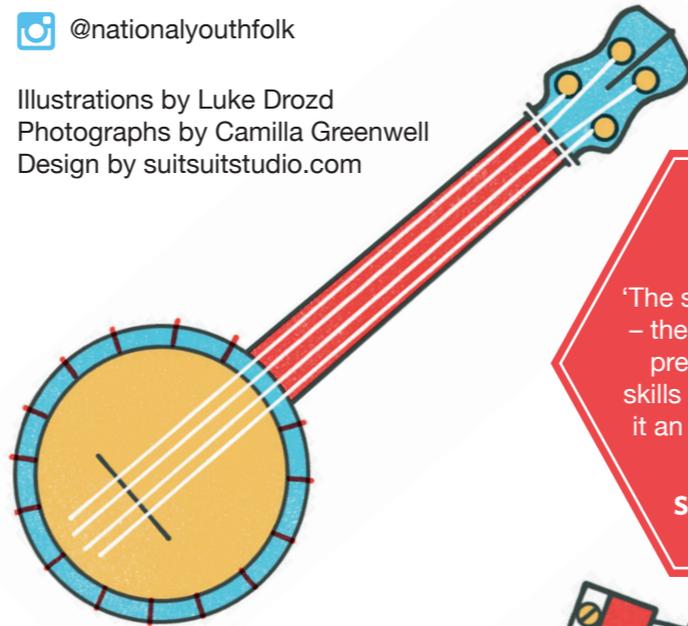
efdss.org/youthfolk

 @TheEFDSS #youthfolk

 /EFDSS

 @nationalyouthfolk

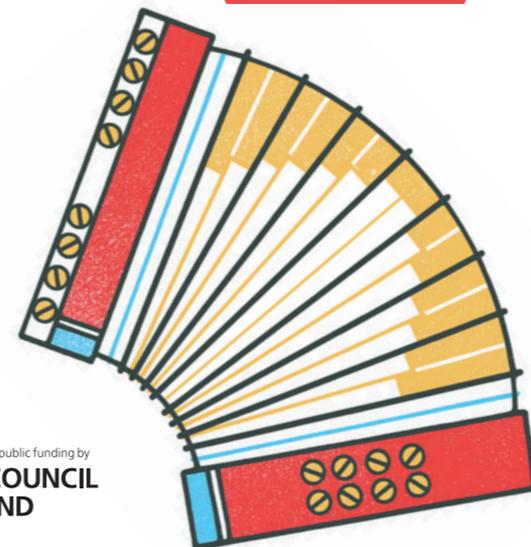
Illustrations by Luke Drozd
Photographs by Camilla Greenwell
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‘The standard was excellent – their musicianship, stage presence, performance skills and enthusiasm made it an evening to remember for a long time’

Songlines, June 2018



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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Sampler Days 2019

Aged 14–18 on 1 September 2019?

Play an instrument confidently?

Want to take part in an inspiring day of music making?

Explore English folk music, learn from inspiring tutors and play with other young musicians from your region. Take part in a day of creative folk music workshops and, if you want to, audition for the 2019–20 National Youth Folk Ensemble.

Each Sampler Day features:

- music workshops with top folk musicians and highly experienced educators
- Q&A with Ensemble staff
- optional short audition, if you wish to apply for the National Youth Folk Ensemble

Sampler Days are open to players of any instrument, and no previous experience of folk is required. All playing and learning will be done by ear.

Book your free place

These free Sampler Days have a positive and welcoming atmosphere.

Booking is essential.

To register for a Sampler Day you will need to:

- Be aged 14–18 on 1 September 2019
- Live in England
- Be able to play confidently on your chosen instrument

Saturday 25 May	Wolverhampton	Newhampton Arts Centre
Sunday 26 May	Cambridge	Anglia Ruskin University
Monday 27 May	Southampton	Central Hall
Tuesday 28 May	Liskeard	Liskeard Public Hall
Thursday 30 May	London	Cecil Sharp House
Friday 31 May	Derby	Guildhall Theatre
Saturday 1 June	Durham	Durham Johnston School
Sunday 2 June	Leeds	Leeds College of Music

Book your free place now: efdss.org/youthfolk

If you're interested in joining the National Youth Folk Ensemble, you'll need to attend a Sampler Day to start the audition process. Following the Sampler Days, some musicians will be invited to a final audition in London on 22 or 23 June 2019.

National Youth Folk Ensemble 2019–20

The National Youth Folk Ensemble brings together talented young folk musicians from across England to create and perform inspiring new versions of traditional music. It was established by the English Folk Dance and Song Society in 2016.

We are looking for excellent instrumentalists to join the Ensemble in 2019–20.

To be considered, you need to be dedicated to your development as a folk musician, and excited about collaborating with others who share your passion. See efdss.org/youthfolk for detailed criteria.

The Artistic Director of the National Youth Folk Ensemble from October 2019 will be the inspirational musician and educator Sam Partridge, who will be leading the Sampler Day team.

Everyone in the Ensemble will experience:

- Four weeks of intensive residential courses in different parts of England
- Expert, dedicated tuition and guidance from leading folk musicians
- Focused development of skills in performance, arrangement and leadership
- High-profile performances at major festivals and venues around England

The residential courses will take place in the school holidays in October 2019 and February, Easter and summer 2020. Financial circumstances are no barrier to participation - full bursaries are available to support membership fees and travel costs.



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'I absolutely loved this experience. It was very empowering playing with others, playing traditional English tunes but making them our own'

Sampler Day participant



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'I love the Ensemble so much, it's helped me improve musically so much and helped me become more of my own person too'

Ensemble member

