



**Cohort 9
2024/5**



The National Youth Folk Ensemble brings together talented young folk musicians from across England to create their own contemporary takes on traditional music from Britain and beyond. With young musicians at the heart of the programme, the Ensemble aims to nurture their talents, aspirations, and creativity, enabling them to develop into the folk performers, educators, and leaders of the future. Over the year the Ensemble has been working with Artistic Director Jo Freya and many other leading folk-artist educators.

Our vision is young people throughout England discovering, playing, and loving folk music; from earliest grassroots activity in schools and community settings on to lifelong engagement with folk music – as participants and professionals. Our Engagement programme works with music hubs, schools, and arts and youth organisations to encourage and support this.

efdss.org/youthfolk

The Ensemble was created and is run by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (*Reg. Charity no. 305999*). We champion folk dance and music at the heart of England's rich and diverse cultural landscape. We deliver learning and participation, artist development, historical research, and training and resources for educators – at our Cecil Sharp House HQ in London, across the country and online.

Can you help fund the National Youth Folk Ensemble?
Make a one-off donation, or set up regular support:

efdss.org/support-us



Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Photography by Roswitha Chesher



ALF
cello
West Midlands



JACKIE
melodeon
Yorkshire



WOODY
double bass
South East



MATTHEW
guitar
Yorkshire



SOPHIE
accordion
North East



KITTY
fiddle
South East



LEANDRO
fiddle
London



BARNEY
fiddle
London



FREYA
piano
South West



STAN
concertina
South West



EUAN
fiddle
North West



SILAS
cello
South East



LEO
accordion
North West



SHAYLA
fiddle
North West



FINN
trombone
North West



ISABELLE
fiddle
East Midlands



SAUL
recorder
London



TAMARA
guitar
London



EMILY
bassoon
South West



ELLA
cello
South East



MEG
fiddle
Yorkshire



ARLO
flute
London

National Youth Folk Ensemble 2024-25