

Alex Laing is Artistic Director (Music) at the King's High School in Warwick where he oversees the musical education of children aged 3 to 18. He also conducts the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation Symphony Orchestra.

Alex has recently been appointed as a conductor and course director for the National Youth String Orchestra of Great Britain and as conductor of the new regional String Orchestra for Warwickshire Music Hub. From 2011-2016 Alex was Musical Director and Conductor of the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain East Region and he has recently returned to this role. He continues to act as a violin tutor and conductor on NCO courses.

Alex began his musical education at the Edinburgh Academy and later at St Mary's Music School where he studied violin with Warren Jacobs. Alex is a graduate of Cambridge University and held one of the University's prestigious Instrumental Awards. Thereafter, he gained the Diploma of Professional Studies in Music Performance at Birmingham Conservatoire, where his violin studies continued with Jacqueline Ross, and later with Peter Thomas and Michael Bochmann.

Alex is founder and artistic director of the Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra (DECO), which recently celebrated its tenth birthday. The orchestra specialises in accessible classical music, drawing large audiences across all generations. Alex has appeared as soloist with DECO in Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante, Haydn's Sinfonia Concertante and in both the Bach double violin concerto and the double violin and oboe concerto (with George Caird).

Alex is a former Head of Strings at Uppingham School and a former professor at the Royal College of Music in the Junior Department. His violin students have won scholarships to leading conservatoires, are prize winners in the UK and abroad and are members of the NCO and of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Alex's articles on violin teaching are published in magazines for the European String Teachers Association. His reviews on music and education appear regularly in the Strad magazine.