

Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra Coronavirus Guidelines for Rehearsals

SYO is very much looking forward to resuming full rehearsals on 12th September. The Covid pandemic is, however, far from over and it is therefore vital that we work together to stay safe and comply with some additional safety measures to help protect us all. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and will change arrangements as needed.

Please take the time to read these guidelines and to follow them at all times. Our guidelines have been prepared based on advice from Making Music, the umbrella organisation for UK amateur music groups, and are fully consistent with the guidelines issued by the Department for Education and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Preparation before arriving for a rehearsal

- Are players well and safe to attend?
 - Have they been contacted by NHS Track and Trace and asked to take a PCR test because they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive?
 - Has anyone in their household tested positive and is currently self-isolating?
 - Do they have any symptoms of Covid-19? (These include temperature, cough, loss of (or change to) sense of smell and taste, as well as headache, sneezing, runny nose and sore throat)?
 - Has NHS Track and Trace asked them to self-isolate?
 - Have they returned from abroad and been asked to self-isolate?
- **If the answers to any of the above are “Yes”, do not attend the rehearsal** – please let the MO or TO coordinator know that the player will not be attending.

to_absences@stoneleighyouthorchestra.org.uk
mo_absences@stoneleighyouthorchestra.org.uk

- Please monitor players' temperatures before coming to a rehearsal and do not attend if over 37.8°C.
- **All players in Year 7 and above and all chaperones should take a lateral flow test before coming to their Stoneleigh rehearsal. We would encourage players in Year 6 and below to also do so.** We believe this is the safest precaution that we can all take to minimise the risk of Covid infection.

On arrival at St Paul's Community Centre

- **Please only arrive 15 minutes before your allotted rehearsal time - you will not be able to enter earlier than this.**
- Enter via the main Community Centre entrance on Inner Park Road.
- Players to queue outside the centre to avoid too many people at one time in entrance hall.

- **No parents to enter the centre at all – chaperones will be there to look after the players.**
- All players will register, have a temperature check and be asked to use hand sanitiser on arrival at the centre.
- We are not requiring players to wear masks, but recommend it when moving around in the centre. Any string players who wish to wear masks during the rehearsal are welcome to do so. Please bring a labelled, zip lock bag for the mask when not being worn.
- Players will be directed to their allocated seat for their rehearsal.
- Small cases and all personal belongings to be kept under / by their chair.
- Large cases will be stored in the conservatory.

During the rehearsals

- All players will be seated in allocated seats. However, they will not be socially distanced and will be sharing a music stand and music, both of which will be provided by the orchestra.
- Players are to bring their own pencils, rosin, reeds, valve oil etc. Percussionist to bring own sticks. All percussion to be wiped before and after use.
- **Wind and brass players** to bring a sealed container or towel and plastic bag to collect spit, which must be taken away with them.
- Please use bell-coverings for wind/brass instruments – suggestions are a shower cap or a double layer of 80 denier tights. They can also be purchased at minimal cost from <https://www.moistureguard.co.uk>
- All instruments to be cleaned at home (no use of pull through cleaners etc.)
- Players must NOT empty spit on to floor and must try to re-learn what may be automatic behaviour!
- Unfortunately, there will be nowhere for parents to wait inside the centre during the rehearsals.
- There will be a break during both the TO and MO rehearsals, but there will be no refreshments provided. Please bring your own drink and snack.

Expected behaviour

- Sanitise/wash hands on arrival, departure, after bathroom visit
- Sneeze/cough into tissue/crook of arm (if not wearing a face-covering)
- Please use signage, one-way systems, tape on floor, listen to chaperone instructions
- Any player not abiding by the rules will be asked to leave the rehearsal. If they are not able to adhere to the rules, they may not be able to participate in future rehearsals.

At the end of the rehearsal

- Please leave the rehearsal area straight away at the end of the rehearsal.
- All TO players to leave via the conservatory doors and through the vicar's garden.
- **TO Parents:** you will meet the players outside the Vicarage in Augustus Road – the house next to the Church.

- MO players will leave by the main entrance on Inner Park Road
- Players will be brought out by chaperones to meet parents.

General Points

- All shared surfaces and facilities will be cleaned by St Paul's before and after rehearsals.
- Players will be reminded to use sanitiser before, during and after rehearsals.
- Hand sanitiser stations are available in several locations in the centre and SYO will have its own sanitiser. Players will be asked to bring their own, named sanitiser.
- St Paul's has removed all unnecessary furniture from all rooms.
- All chairs will be cleaned by St Paul's prior to and after our rehearsals.
- No heating will be used in either Hall or Church, though Centre radiators will be available in cold weather (players to bring extra jumpers if needed).
- Doors in Hall, Conservatory and Lounge to be kept open to allow ventilation.
- All player and music tutor details will be retained in case they are needed for Track and Trace.
- If a confirmed case of Covid is identified, SYO will take advice from Public Health England and notify players accordingly.
- In the event of emergency evacuation, players will be directed through labelled emergency exits to collect on the grass opposite the centre on Inner Park Road, where they will be registered by the chaperones.