



Attending Ensemble Rehearsals Safely

We must all remember that during the Covid-19 pandemic, attending any ensemble or choir rehearsal must be done in a 'Covid Safe' manner. As most ensembles contain students from multiple bubbles, it is vital that a full 2m distance is kept AT ALL TIMES.

Therefore, we ask you to abide by the following rules:

1. You should not be at school if you have any Covid symptoms; you must not disregard this basic principle in order to attend your ensemble.
2. If you need to miss a rehearsal, you **MUST** let your ensemble leader know so that we have an accurate record for Test and Trace if necessary.
3. Please do not arrive early for the rehearsal. You will only be admitted into the rehearsal room 5 minutes before the rehearsal start time; please do not arrive at the Music Department before this or you will be asked to leave.
4. Please wear a face-covering on arrival unless you are unable. You will be told by your ensemble leader when it is safe to remove these. You will be asked to replace them at the end of the rehearsal, and you will be dismissed in bubbles.
5. Please use hand sanitiser on entry and exit from the building.
6. Emergency exit doors in the Recital Hall and windows in MS6 must remain open during rehearsals. Please ensure that you wear warm layers!
7. Please follow the one-way system in the Music Department. For rehearsals in the Recital Hall, you will be dismissed in bubbles and leave through the emergency exit doors at the back.
8. When you arrive at the rehearsal your music will be on your seat or music stand and will have been put there in a Covid-safe way. At the end of the rehearsal, you will either be asked to look after your own music until the following week, or asked to put it into a bag or box on the way out of the room.
9. There will be no spare music, and you will not be permitted to share.
10. You must bring your own pencil to the rehearsal.

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Additionally, the following precautions have been put into place:

11. You will always be seated/standing two metres apart from anyone else. You should be aware that this will feel quite weird to start with. Singers and wind/brass players will be asked to face forward or in a specific direction in order to reduce possible contamination. Again, this might feel quite uncomfortable and require you to rely on more peripheral vision than normal.
12. All cleaning will either have been done for you in advance, or you will be given wipes on the way into the room to clean your chair/music stand.
13. If your ensemble is taking place at lunchtime, we will assume that you require a packed lunch and will make sure that there is one available for you either at the ensemble, or to collect at school in the usual way.