

CLYO RETURN TO REHEARSALS

Dear CLYO parents / carers,

I hope you and your families are all well.

As you will know, we are unable to rehearse as a full symphony orchestra at the moment due to COVID restrictions. The team at ArtForms, however, have been busy exploring alternative options, so that we can still continue to make music together, and we've got a plan!

We are of course following and keeping up to date with all government and local guidelines surrounding COVID. To comply with these and keep everyone safe, we need to meet in groups of 15 or fewer (depending on room capacity and to ensure appropriate social distancing). With that in mind, we have been looking out some chamber music that we are sure will prove inspiring, challenging and enjoyable for everyone in CLYO.

There are five different CLYM ensembles that usually meet on a Friday evening, and with the current restrictions in place, it is impossible to fit everyone into Pudsey Civic Hall. For the time being, we are therefore moving CLYO to St Mark's Church. (Church Ave, St Mark's Rd, Woodhouse, Leeds LS2 9AF). St Mark's has 3 large rooms that we can use to rehearse in. The rooms will be cleaned before and after use and there will be a clear one-way system in place.

Additional measures in place:

- Temperatures will be taken at the door
- Everyone must wear a mask when they enter the building and keep it on until they are seated in the rehearsal room (unless exempt)
- Socially distanced rehearsals (at least 2m)
- We cannot share equipment, such as music stands. Please bring your own if you have one. If you don't have your own, you can borrow one that will be disinfected before and after use but we need to know in advance so that we can bring it from Pudsey Civic Hall.
- Staggered start / finish times or different entrances / exits to ensure the groups can avoid contact with other groups
- There will not be space for parents to sit in
- Full risk assessment will be made available for anyone interested

Rehearsals will be 1.5 hours long as we are anticipating that we will need to split into up to 6 groups and will need time to clean in between rehearsals. So that we can place members into chamber ensembles, please let us know (by email / phone / text) which session you are able to attend:

5pm – 6.30

7pm – 8.30



Neither

If you are able to attend either session, that would be really helpful for making up the groups - please let us know and we will assign one session to you. Times are approximate and may vary if we need to stagger start / finish times.

Comments:

If you are not able to attend either rehearsal, we will not include your child in the rehearsal plans for now but will contact you again when plans / guidelines change. We understand that not everyone will be ready or able to attend rehearsals yet. Please be assured that your child will not lose their place in the orchestra if they do not return straight away and you are welcome to contact us when they are ready. (If your child does decide that they no longer wish to be part of the orchestra, please do let us know ASAP so that their place can be offered to someone else. Auditions are taking place in October.)

We need to know in advance who is coming so please let us know ASAP. If we do not hear from you by 12th October, we will assume that your child is not returning yet. We will get in touch with you once we have collated responses and assigned groups.

We are hoping to start rehearsals after the October half term and will keep you updated on our progress. The orchestra staff are really looking forward to seeing everyone again and exploring some different repertoire. If you have any questions or concerns, please drop me an email, or my work phone number is 07891 274870.

Best wishes,
Hannah and the CLYO team

