

IOW Music Hub - Face to Face Ensemble Guidance for Players, Parents/Carers and Staff during the Covid-19 period

It has been compiled using [Guidance for full opening: schools](#), guidance provided by the DCMS for professionals and non-professionals, [working safely during coronavirus \(COVID-19\): performing arts](#), and [latest singing research](#)

Rehearsal Space:

- All rehearsal spaces will be well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows and/or doors) or ventilation units
- Prop doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation
- Rehearsals should take place in a room large enough for players and staff to adequately socially distance

For Players and Staff:

- No-one should attend a rehearsal if they are feeling unwell or are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 (A new persistent cough, and/or a high temperature and/or experiencing a loss of taste or smell)
- All persons are reminded to not touch their eyes, nose or mouth if their hands are not clean.
- Staff and students should not attend if they are self-isolating

For Players:

- Players should wait outside the rehearsal venue until they are collected by the ensemble director
- Whilst waiting outside students should remain socially distanced from other players, ie they should keep a distance of 2m between themselves and other ensemble players
- Hands should be washed/sanitised on arrival and departure
- Players will be allocated a chair for the rehearsal. Players should keep their coats, bags and instrument cases neatly by their chairs
- Players (Y7+) should wear coverings whilst moving round the rehearsal venue and during rehearsals if their instrument allows
- Players only have access to rehearsal room and toilets
- Players should not at any time move round other areas of the rehearsal venue
- Players should be mindful of not touching any materials/fittings in the rehearsal venue
- Players should not allow anyone else to touch their instrument or belongings
- Brass players should bring an absorbent cloth (for collecting water from the instrument) and a plastic sealable bag for the cloth to be taken home in
- Brass and woodwind players (except flutes and French horns) are asked to use a bell covering. Something home-made from an absorbent material is fine. Shower caps or anything made from plastic (ie. not absorbent) are not acceptable. "MoistureGuards" for woodwind instruments are available from Amazon.
- Percussionists should bring their own sticks
- Singers are asked to wear a face covering throughout the rehearsal
- Canteen areas of rehearsal venues are not to be used
- Players need to provide their own music stands
- Players will either be issued with music electronically or music will be issued at the first rehearsal. Having been issued with music, students must keep their music with them and not leave it behind at the end of the rehearsal

Any player who fails to follow this guidance may be asked not to attend rehearsals

For Parents/Carers

- Parents/carers should not enter the rehearsal premises
- Parents/carers are not allowed to wait during the rehearsal in the rehearsal premises
- Should parents/carers wish to talk to any ensemble staff they should do so via email
- Music for most ensembles will be sent out electronically. If you would prefer a paper copy put in the post, please let the office staff know
- All players must be enrolled before attending a face to face rehearsal
- ***If your child becomes unwell after a rehearsal with Covid-19 symptoms please inform the music hub office on 023 8083 3648***

If a player becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms during a rehearsal:

- They should immediately be removed out of the rehearsal room to a medical room or other agreed room with the rehearsal venue
- A distance of 2m should be maintained between staff and the unwell musician
- Inform the rehearsal venue that a player is symptomatic
- Inform SMH management that a player is symptomatic

For staff

- In line with the Out of School Setting guidance face to face groups will be no larger than 15 students with at least one member of staff (Please note this is under constant review and may be changed with immediate effect)
- Any chairs must be set out 2m apart for string players or 3m for woodwind/brass/singers prior to the arrival of the players
- Players should be positioned side by side or back to back
- Conductors should be 3m away from the players during the rehearsal
- Chairs must be wiped down before and after they have been set out and after use
- Any tables used during the session must be cleaned at the end of the session
- Staff should meet players outside the premises and take players outside again at the end of the rehearsal to be reunited with their parents/carers
- Staff should ensure players wash their hands or use hand sanitiser at the start and end of rehearsal
- Players should be informed of which toilets they may use and the route to get to them and back to the rehearsal room
- Young players should be escorted to the toilet
- Staff should maintain a distance of 2m between themselves and players at all times
- Staff should not touch student's instruments
- Staff should ensure chairs are put away correctly and cleaned at the end of the rehearsal
- Any percussion instruments used should be wiped down after each session
- Pianos or keyboards should be wiped down after each session
- Door handles, used to access rooms, should be wiped down after the rehearsal
- Window handles must be cleaned if they are touched
- Staff should ensure students do not use or touch other's instruments
- Staff should use a face mask throughout rehearsals (staff to provide their own) Visors may not be used as an alternative, but may be used as an addition
- Staff should inform IOWMH management if any player is not following adequate social distancing
- Staff **MUST** maintain an accurate register

Close contact:

- Staff should keep a record of anyone they are in close contact with (Close contact is defined as 1m or less for any length of time, or 1-2m for more than 15minutes) This will be a vital document should you need to isolate.

Venue Specific: Taunton's College

- the floor needs to be washed at the end of the rehearsal, equipment will be provided

Management

- Management will provide hand sanitiser, wipes, Dettol and kitchen towel for cleaning

Revised April 2021