

Welcome to the Fingal Youth Orchestra!

We aim to provide an opportunity for children and young people to play music together, socialise and have fun. Membership of the orchestra provides a forum for young musicians to enhance their musical ability and develop orchestral skills. Members also enjoy participating in concerts, at music festivals and on away trips.

We aim to continue to raise the standard of the orchestra and this requires a strong sense of partnership between the orchestra committee, parents and players. Therefore, we ask you to read this leaflet carefully and to discuss the 'Rules & Regulations' with your child.

We require that both Parent and Players sign the Annual Registration Form to indicate that they have read this leaflet and agree to abide by the conditions therein.

THE ROLE OF THE PARENT

- It is the duty of parents to ensure that their children arrive punctually to rehearsals equipped with musical instrument, music stand (labelled), music, pencil, rubber and sharpener.
- Parents should advise their children that all mobile phones must be switched OFF during rehearsal. If urgent contact needs to be made, you can telephone your child's relevant orchestra manager. Mobile phones can also be left with relevant orchestra manager during rehearsal.
- Parents should ensure that their children are attending weekly music lessons (on their orchestral instrument) with a qualified teacher. Therefore, you are required to include full details of your teacher on the registration form. Contact may be made with the teacher.
- If there is a change in music teacher during the year please inform your orchestra manager.

BEHAVIOUR CODE

All players should play their part in maintaining a spirit of good behaviour by:

- Arriving at 9.15am promptly to make sure they are included in roll call.
- Being tuned up, seated and ready to start rehearsal at 9.30am sharp.
- Switching off mobile phones.
- Remember to bring your musical instrument, music stand (labelled), music, pencil, rubber, sharpener.
- Respect fellow orchestra members, committee members and musical staff; rowdy behaviour, bullying and bad language will not be tolerated.
- Follow the direction of the conductor and the tutor. Unnecessary talking and interruption of rehearsal is unacceptable.
- Walking in the school corridors as running indoors is forbidden.
- Keeping the school tidy and free of litter.
- Attending all rehearsals. If you miss more than 2 rehearsals your membership will be reviewed.
- Players must be available to perform at FYO concerts.

PLAYERS SHOULD NOT:

- De-face, damage or interfere with school or orchestra property. An appropriate payment will be charged for damages.
- Climb on walls, roofs, trees, fences or fire escapes.
- Climb on apparatus in school.

- Bring any food (including chewing gum) into the school. Snack/drink is provided.
- Leave the grounds of the school during rehearsal time.
- Smoke cigarettes/other substances or use illegal drugs at rehearsals or on away trips.
- Drink alcohol at rehearsals or on away trips.
- Carry knives at rehearsals or on away trips.

SANCTIONS

- Sanctions will apply to all players who do not comply with the conditions of membership.
- A verbal warning or temporary exclusion from a rehearsal period will be used as sanctions for players who do not comply with the Rules & Regulations.
- In cases of persistent or serious misbehaviour parents will be asked to attend to talk with a committee member and to formulate a joint approach to the problem. Parents may also be asked to 'sit-in' on rehearsals.
- The orchestra committee reserves the right to ask parents to withdraw their child from the orchestra for continuously disruptive behaviour, following a discussion of the matter with the parents.
- Players whose performance is not up to the standard required by the repertoire of their orchestra may be given a probationary period. Players unable to progress after a reasonable period will lose their place.
- If a player cannot attend a rehearsal, it is essential that managers are notified by text in advance with an acceptable excuse, otherwise the player will be marked absent and lose his/her place.
- Players must arrive punctually. If a player is late, unless a legitimate excuse is sent by text to relevant manager, then he/she will not be admitted to the rehearsal room until a suitable break arises. He/she will have to sit, supervised, and practise on his/her own.
- Parents should ensure children are collected promptly at 12.30pm. If someone other than the child's parent is collecting the child, please inform the appropriate manager.
- Parents are expected to familiarise themselves with the 'Rules & Regulations' and discuss them with their child.