



## **DUBLIN YOUTH ORCHESTRAS ONLINE CONTACT & REHEARSAL CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT**

It is the policy of the Dublin Youth Orchestras (DYO) to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people who are members of our orchestras and who take part in our activities.

DYO is committed to providing a positive and enlightened environment, to facilitate the best possible educational outcome for participants. The welfare of the children and young people under our care is paramount.

This policy extends the Child Protection Policy of DYO which is available from [www.dyo.ie](http://www.dyo.ie) or in hard copy. Email [info@dyo.ie](mailto:info@dyo.ie) for a copy to be posted to you.

### **Online rehearsals or social events**

Rehearsals of instruments utilising any online format, will facilitate access to the greatest range of instruments and rehearsal opportunities for our players. It will also assist in creating social opportunities for players to meet each other and DYO musicians, in a supervised environment. In providing these opportunities, we commit to adhering to the following best practices in the interest of safeguarding both players, conductors, tutors and supervising adults.

### **Child Protection Concerns Related to Online rehearsals & social events**

Online rehearsals or hosting social events could raise the following concerns in relation to child protection:

- This situation introduces the player to the idea of communicating with an adult who is not part of their family group over the internet. This is not a practice that should come to be considered normal by the player and it should be emphasised by parents that communicating in this manner is something that requires permission and supervision.

- This method invites the conductor, tutor or supervising adult into the student's home, and vice versa, without being physically present and, therefore, possibly unknown to other members of either household. There should be an awareness on behalf of all involved that there is someone virtually present in their home and that everyone's actions need to be reflected in this. Insofar as is possible, the situation should closely reflect that of their involvement with the Orchestra. Where possible both the player and the conductor, tutor or supervising adult should be aware of the location within their home utilised for such communications.
- The possibility exists for distribution of recordings of rehearsals online by the player, parents, the conductor, tutor, supervising adult or DYO. This may be desirable at times, such as using the recordings to promote the usefulness of online rehearsals and best practice in the area. However, the written agreement of all parties is an absolute requirement before any materials are distributed
- DYO conductors, tutors and supervising adults, undertake as part of our Child Protection Policy to report any concerns over child welfare to Wendy Arlow who is the Designated Liaison Person within DYO.

### **Parental/Guardian consent**

Written parental/guardian consent will be sought for the purposes of:

- Engaging with the young person in their home, or other location as decided, via any online platform
- The recording of such sessions as a record of any interaction between the conductor/tutor/supervising adult and the player.
- The retention of such recorded materials for a specified time as named by the DYO
- Posting of lessons online for the promotion of the usefulness of online sessions and best practice in the area. The latter permission should be obtained separately from the above items as is not part of the rehearsal programme.

### **Location and Supervision of rehearsals**

- All rehearsals should be held in an area of the home that is open and accessible to the parents of the player. They should not, for instance, take place in a bedroom with a closed door.
- Rehearsals will, however, need to be held in an area where the player and conductor, tutor/supervising adult can concentrate on the rehearsal and not be interrupted. They may be hard to balance with other people in the house and may take a few sessions to establish a good routine. All concerned need

to show some patience in forming a routine and be willing to discuss ways to improve concentration.

- Ideally, a parent or other responsible adult should be present with the player during the rehearsal or social event.
- All rehearsals and social events must take place using online platforms controlled by or fully accessible by parents
- All rehearsals and social events should take place using an organisation address provided by and controlled by DYO
- All rehearsals and social events will be conducted in group sessions and no individual contact will be made with players by any person on behalf of DYO.

### **Alternative contact methods**

- All arrangements for rehearsals and social events must be made through a parent/guardian.
- Players and conductors, tutors or supervising adults must not communicate via alternative online methods other than specifically agreed with the parent/guardian.
- All communications between players and conductors, tutors or supervising adults should be fully controlled by or accessible to parents/guardians.

### **Grounds for concern**

The grounds for concern laid out in the DYO's child protection policy shall apply in all online rehearsals and shall apply to all children in the players home. This includes things that might happen in the background or off camera.

If a parent/guardian has any concerns about the process or relationship between the player and conductor, tutor or supervising adult, they should contact Wendy Arlow, Designated liaison person with DYO to discuss the situation. DYO undertakes to investigate all complaints or concerns regarding its conductors, tutors or volunteers, in line with our Child protection policy.

### **Raising concerns**

Concerns for the welfare of players will be dealt with in line with DYO's Child Protection policy.

### **Recording of rehearsals**

In the interest of safety and transparency, all rehearsals conducted on any online platform shall be recorded by the conductor, tutor or supervising adult and stored by DYO.

Recordings of the sessions will be stored on a DYO cloud storage facility operated by DYO. These will be held for a period of 3 years and will then be erased.

Given the educational nature of the rehearsals, it is not intended to encrypt all files during this process.

The player and or parent may also record the rehearsal for the purposes of learning the various pieces.

All other data collected in relation to the player will be dealt with under the DYO Data privacy policy.

Signed:

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Kieran Pryal  
Chair  
DYO

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Date



## **PARENTAL/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM**

### **Rehearsal and/or social gathering via online platform**

Please tick all sections to indicate your consent and sign at the bottom of the page where indicated.

1. I have read and understood the Online contact and rehearsal Child protection statement provided to me by DYO.
2. I consent to my child \_\_\_\_\_ participating in online rehearsals or social events with a designated DYO conductor, tutor or supervising adult in my own home or at other locations as may be agreed in writing.
3. I consent to the video recording of rehearsals by the conductor, tutor or supervising adult.
4. I understand that all contacts with players will be made in group settings and no individual contact will be made with players.
5. I consent to the retention of these recordings by DYO in the line with the section "Recording of rehearsals" in the Online contact and rehearsal Child protection statement.
6. I understand that any online rehearsals or social events will operate in line with the Child Protection Policy of the DYO and that the conductor, tutor or supervising adult is required to report any concerns to the Designated Liaison Person for DYO.
7. I understand that concerns of a serious nature, as outlined in our Child Protection Policy, will be reported to An Garda Síochána and or Túsla.

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_