

## Rules

Please help us by following these few simple rules:

- Take music home to practise on a regular basis, but ensure that any music on loan for practise is returned the following week, even if you can not attend rehearsal.
- Take care of your own instruments as the orchestra will not be held responsible for loss or damage.
- Take care of music, equipment and instruments belonging to the orchestra.
- Attend rehearsals regularly and promptly.
- Do not play your instrument or talk whilst the conductor is explaining a point of interest or rehearsing another section of the orchestra.
- Listen carefully to the conductors instructions to save repetition or misunderstanding.
- Do not use your mobile phone
- Return promptly at the end of break periods
- Do not pass around or eat sweets during the rehearsal.
- Do not leave litter in the rehearsal / changing room.
- Return music to the correct folder when finished with.
- Assist at the end of rehearsals by putting away chairs and music stands.

The above guidelines are given to ensure the smooth running of the orchestra. Failure to follow the above instructions may result in you being asked to leave the orchestra.

If you have any ideas or suggestions on how to make the orchestra even better please let us know.



*Members Handbook*

*2014-2015*

## **Welcome to the orchestra...**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to The New Streetly Youth Orchestra. We hope that you will find your time with us enjoyable.

This handbook has been put together to give you an insight into the background of the orchestra, how it operates and some of the rules it has adopted. These rules have been developed to help the smooth running of the orchestra and ensure that everyone gains full benefit from the limited rehearsal time we have available.

Remember, it is your Orchestra! If you have any comments or suggestions in respect to any aspect of the orchestra we would be delighted to hear them.

## **History**

The New Streetly Youth Orchestra is a non-profit making association that aims to further the musical education of young musicians of varying ages and abilities through regular rehearsal and performance.

The orchestra was founded in 1991 and has grown from strength to strength with members from across Birmingham, Walsall and Staffordshire. There are no age limits or specific entry restrictions; all you need is enthusiasm and dedication. The orchestra's repertoire is as diverse as its members, with music ranging from classical works to popular tunes.

The orchestra is privileged to receive regular guidance and support from a team of talented tutors, many of whom have studied music at renowned establishments including Birmingham Conservatoire. All tutors give up their time and energy for free to help lead rehearsals.

The orchestra also benefits from the support of a number of friends and volunteers who offer support in the management of rehearsals and events.

## Key Contacts

Phone - 07958 389 445  
Email - [mail@nsyo.org.uk](mailto:mail@nsyo.org.uk)  
Twitter - @nsyo

## Website

The orchestra has its own website featuring the latest news, information and images from recent events: [www.nsyo.org.uk](http://www.nsyo.org.uk)

## Admission to membership

The orchestra welcomes new members throughout the year; musicians should be competent at sight reading music and playing their chosen orchestral instrument. Members are expected to pay a small subscription fee to cover costs.

All members are expected to conform to the orchestra's rules on the back page of this handbook. We also rely on members to help promote the orchestra. Please help us in creating and maintaining an image that we can all be proud of.

## Rehearsals, concerts and social events

Rehearsals take place at Manor Primary School, Briar Avenue, Streetly, 7pm to 9pm each Wednesday during term time. **Members are expected to attend regularly and be punctual.**

The orchestra participates in a number of concerts and public appearances throughout the year. It is essential that every member makes the effort to be present at these as substitutes are difficult to find. Any member who is aware that he/she will not be available for a concert should give at least 6 weeks notice.

The orchestra also organises a number of social activities including trips to theme parks, shows and discos.

**We hope you enjoy your time at the orchestra**