



RIDGEWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL

5th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Symphony Hall Choir Performance- Sunday 10th March

As you will be aware your child will be performing on Sunday 10th March at Symphony Hall, Birmingham. This is a fantastic opportunity and we are so excited to hear the school choir give their very best on stage at such a prestigious venue. Arrangements for the day are as follows.

Arrival:

Students must meet Miss Haines and Miss Bastock outside the front of Birmingham Library at 2.20pm, where they will be registered and will meet with the other students from the Dudley schools' choir. There is an overhang that will provide shelter from any poor weather as students from the Dudley secondary schools arrive. The massed choir will then walk to the Symphony Hall Foyer and will be ushered back-stage. The schedule for the day is very tight, and understandably there will be lots of schools for both the morning and afternoon concerts so it is imperative that your child is on-time.

It is important to note- there are planned disruptions to train-services from Stourbridge to Snow Hill Birmingham until 4.30pm on Sunday due to engineering works. Replacement buses are available, alternatively there is an NCP carpark both behind the library and at the Birmingham mailbox, which is a 10-minute walk away.

Dress Code:

Your child will need to be in black trousers/skirt and tights and school shoes on the bottom half, and a plain coloured T-shirt on the top half. T-shirts can be any colour, or black/white but should be as plain as possible. Students who are already performing earlier in the day with DPA Ensembles must wear black to blend in with both groups.

Late Arrivals:

If you are running late parents and student should report to the Symphony Hall reception desk (outside the main stalls entrance doors) where Dudley Performing Arts will arrange for the student to join our group. As Ridgewood staff are required to accompany students backstage, we will not be able to come out to meet your child.

What your child needs to bring:

Please bring as little as possible. Water is allowed backstage, but no other drinks should be brought. If you think your child will need a snack whilst with us, please ask them to bring something that they can manage easily in a backstage environment.

NB: Snacks MUST NOT contain any nuts.

If your child is in multiple groups on concert day:

Please arrive as directed to your first group/ensemble of the day. There will be a hand-over backstage where your child might be asked to meet the choir and Ridgewood staff members at the end of the day to be registered and dismissed with all the other children from our school.



Headteacher – Mrs R. Cope. Acting Headteacher – Mr J. Cannon from 17/01/2024 (during Mrs Cope's absence)

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Lyrics and Music:

Your child has been issued with lyrics and music for all the rehearsals, and may wish to bring these with them for backstage, however we have been told that students will be off lyric-sheets and music in the concert, so they will need to practice at home and in choir rehearsal between now and the concert.

The concert starts for parents, friends and family at 4pm- doors open from approximately 3.30pm. The concert is nearly sold out, with just a few remaining tickets in the grand tier at the back of the hall. Tickets can still be purchased through the B:Music website, attached here:

<https://bmusic.co.uk/events/dudley-goes-to-symphony-hall>

Consent:

Please complete the consent form on ParentPay that will need to be completed in full by **Friday 8th March 2024**, to enable your child to take part in this event. It is very important that all the information requested on the ParentPay questionnaire is completed, including emergency contact details, necessary medical information, and full doctors phone number.

You have previously received your ParentPay login details but if you have forgotten or mislaid these, you will need to go the ParentPay website (www.parentpay.com) and click "forgotten password". You will then be emailed a link to reset your account. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this in school. The following ParentPay link will answer any questions you may have with regard to your online account and making a payment.

Link: <https://www.parentpay.com/parent-account-faqs/>

These activities are important in enriching and extending the school curriculum. They rely largely on the goodwill of the staff who are prepared to organise such events. It is vital therefore that all students who participate support the staff, and each other, by exhibiting sensible behaviour and full co-operation at all times.

In this context we reserve the right to withdraw any student from a visit or residential activity if, in the time leading up to it they:

- are excluded or suspended from school for any reason.
- repeatedly refuse to cooperate or follow the instructions of staff and fail to respond positively to appropriate warnings.

Ridgewood students are always an absolute delight on these occasions, and we expect that this will continue with this tradition.

We look forward to supporting your child in what will hopefully be a very memorable and special performance.

Yours faithfully,



Miss T Haines

Teacher of Music

Ridgewood High School