

Protocol for COVID19-safe Rehearsals in St Peter's Church from September 2020

V1.1 02/09/2020

This Protocol applies to the weekly KEMS evening rehearsals in St Peter's Church on Tuesdays (Orchestra) and Wednesdays (Concert Band) when they resume in September 2020. The Protocol will be kept under constant review and updated in the light of experience and government advice. The Protocol has been put together after extensive review of the advice provided by government, the NHS and Making Music.

This Protocol is aligned with that of the church who will be responsible for cleaning of all areas. Apart from Sunday services, there will be no other groups using the main body of the church other than KEMS, though some charity food production will be carried out in the kitchen in the mornings.

Social distancing means that St Peter's cannot accommodate more than around 20 players at any one time. The Musical Directors will determine who attends each weekly rehearsal and provide seating plans consistent with social distancing rules.

The seats will be set out in advance of the Tuesday rehearsals as detailed in the Orchestra MD's seating plan, using sanitised hands or disposable gloves. The seats will be left in place after the rehearsal and will be used for the Concert Band rehearsal the following night. The seats will be adjusted before the Wednesday rehearsal in accordance with the Concert Band MD's seating plan. The seats will be left in place after the Wednesday night rehearsal.

Rehearsals will start at the normal times (7:40 for Orchestra and 7:45 for the Concert Band) but will be shortened so as to reduce any build-up of aerosols. There will be a short break in the middle of the rehearsal for access to toilets but the kitchen will be out-of-bounds. The MD will be responsible for the precise timings.

Your Responsibilities

Members must not attend rehearsals if they feel at all unwell with anything previously undiagnosed, nor if

- 1) they have any of the symptoms: elevated temperature, continuous cough, loss of smell and taste
- 2) they have been in close contact with someone with symptoms
- 3) NHS Track & Trace have asked them to self-isolate
- 4) they have returned from abroad and been asked to self-isolate
- 5) they are subject to local lockdown rules

Members must bring a **cover such as a towel** for their allocated seat, since these have soft surfaces which cannot be wiped down. Wind players must also bring something to **catch any drips** from their instruments (a newspaper would probably be sufficient)

Members are also asked to bring a **spray or wipes** for sanitising the hard surfaces of their chair at the end of the rehearsal.

Members must bring their own **music stand**. There will be no sharing of stands and the church stands will not be available for use.

On arrival at St Peter's each player **must proceed directly to their allocated seat**. Instrument cases should be stored beside your allocated seat where practical.

If it is necessary to bring down percussion instruments or acoustic screens from the church loft, this should be done by a minimal number of people; hands should be sanitised before and afterwards or disposable gloves worn. A record will be kept of who handled these items.

Face coverings must be worn at all times except when seated on one's allocated seat.

During the break, social distancing rules must be followed if using the toilets.

While in the church.....

- 1) observe 2 metre social distancing AT ALL TIMES, this means before, during and after musical activity, during breaks, in bathrooms
- 2) sneeze/cough into tissue/crook of arm (if not wearing a face-covering)
- 3) no hugging, hand-shaking, lingering to chat in rehearsal venue before/after; chat, if you wish, outside, at 2m distance...
- 4) and repeat again: in break, by all means chat, but remain at 2m distance
- 5) avoid touching shared surfaces as much as possible
- 6) sanitise/wash hands on arrival, departure, before/after break, after bathroom visit

At the end of the rehearsal, you must pack your instrument, wipe down your chair and exit as quickly as practical within social distancing guidelines.

If anyone feels unwell during a rehearsal with possible COVID19 symptoms, they must leave the rehearsal space immediately. The rehearsal will be terminated at that point. The individual must get tested for COVID19 as quickly as possible and inform Tim Ward (Orchestra) or Richard Moss (Concert Band) of the outcome; this also applies if the individual is taken ill after the rehearsal.

Details of the attendees and the seating plan for each rehearsal will be retained for 21 days in case required by Track & Trace but, provided social distancing measures in this Protocol are followed, there shouldn't be any need to self-isolate.

Talking loudly should be avoided where possible and MD's will encourage players to keep the volume down when playing wind or brass instruments. MD's will have access to a microphone for communicating with the widely spaced players if required.

A small supply of disposable masks, disposable gloves and sanitising products will be available in case members forget to bring them.

Personal Risk

This Protocol is designed to reduce the risks from COVID19 to an acceptable minimum consistent with government guidelines. **Each individual, however, is responsible for assessing their personal risk** and some members may fall into a higher-risk category (see NHS Website for guidance).

KEMS will never pressure a member to attend a rehearsal if they feel that the level of risk is unacceptable.