



Eccles Community Choir

Overview

Introduction

With a duty of care to minimise risk of COVID-19 spread within all Eccles Community Choir activities, Eccles Community Choir needs to demonstrate that all reasonable measures have been put into place for the safety of those participants able to attend presential activities, whilst supporting inclusivity for the whole Choir.

This policy explains how we will address COVID-19 security for the Choir.

Policy

- We will comply with national¹, local² and departmental³ government rules and guidelines for COVID-19. The Musical Director will assume overall responsibility for ensuring that up-to-date practical arrangements for presential Choir activities comply with these rules.
- In accordance with the advice of the Associated Board for Choral Directors (ABCD)⁴, the Eccles Community Choir Committee will be responsible for agreeing the organisation and management of returning to singing in specific venues.
- In accordance with the regulations mentioned above and in alignment with the advice of the incorporated society of Musicians (ISM)⁵, we will only use venues which are considered to be COVID-19 secure, with their own full COVID-19 Risk assessments and practical measures already in place. Each venue will be reviewed prior to Choir activities and risk assessed by the Musical Director or her representative for COVID-19 safety specific to the planned activities.

¹<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

² https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/500286/health_protection/7987/covid-19_rules_manchester_needs_to_follow

³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/performing-arts>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-digital-culture-media-sport>

⁵ <https://www.ism.org/advice/easing-the-lockdown-choirs-and-amateur-music-groups>

- Choir membership includes professionals, volunteers and singers. All members who choose to attend will be required to comply with COVID-19 safety measures and to sign the required documentation to demonstrate that each individual understands the risks and regulations, and their willingness to comply with the measures which have been put in place.
- A phased return to singing together will be implemented in accordance with all aforementioned regulations and guidelines, beginning with a maximum of six people attending a suitably COVID-19 secure venue if they wish to. There is no obligation to attend.
- The Musical Director will be responsible for ensuring that compliance is maintained during each presencial session. All attendees will also carry individual responsibility in regard to minimising the risk of spread of COVID-19. A Zoom link will be provided to enable the inclusion of the whole Choir.
- GDPR⁶ notice: – personal data gathered with regard to COVID-19 measures will only be used by Eccles Community Choir for the management of COVID-19 security for the duration of the pandemic. We may need to share individual's data with the Government Track and Trace service, but otherwise data will not be shared with any other third parties. Along with all other personal data held by the Choir, this data will be included in a regular yearly review in accordance with the Choir's GDPR policy.

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⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation>