

Sydney Youth Orchestras COVID-19 Safe Plan

SYO (Sydney Youth Orchestras) is registered with the NSW Government as a COVID Safe Organisation. To gain this accreditation we have produced a COVID-19 Safe Plan.

The plan is produced considering the various potential risks due to nature of SYO activities, which:

- Involve large numbers of participants gathering from different communities and education providers.
- Involve a wide age range among participants (including those who cannot be vaccinated due to age).
- Involve instruments that cannot be played wearing a mask.
- Require participants to be in proximity with each other, conducive to ensemble music making.
- May involve audience members.

Outlined below are the measures SYO has put in place to ensure the safety of Participants and staff.

<i>Vaccination</i>	<p>Any person engaged by SYO in paid employment is required to be fully vaccinated, including Admin Staff, Conductors, Tutors, Rehearsal Supervisors or any employee or contractors.</p> <p>This includes musicians employed by SYO to perform as part of professional performance engagements, as well as casual production, educational and administrative roles. The vaccination status of individuals and proof will be required by providing the COVID Digital Vaccination Certificate on engagement and will be stored securely by SYO.</p> <p>All volunteers who come into contact with SYO staff or participants or access an SYO venue are required to be fully vaccinated.</p> <p>All participants are required to be vaccinated (when eligible) to participate in SYO programs.</p> <p>Participants who are under 12years (Unvaccinated)</p>
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Due to the nature of SYO activities, some participants may not be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine due to their age. Once participants are eligible for vaccination, they will be required to be vaccinated within a reasonable period.

Medical Exemption

Employees and participants with a Medical Exemption will be required to present a Medical Exemption from - <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/vaccine/Documents/covid-19-vaccine-contraindication.pdf> . SYO will work with employees and participants to ensure additional safety measures are put in place.

Record Keeping

The vaccination status of individuals and proof from the COVID Digital Vaccination Certificate will be required and stored securely by SYO.

General infection control and contamination prevention

All rehearsal rooms will allow for the current physical distancing requirement set by NSW Health.

Hand sanitiser stations will be provided at the entrance to all rooms and spaces used by SYO with signs requiring their use by everyone.

All students and staff will be advised to wash or sanitise their hands on entering the SYO areas.

Soap and disposable towels/air driers will be provided in bathrooms.

All SYO participants and staff are prohibited from attending live SYO activities if they exhibit any (even mild) symptoms or if someone in their household is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. Participants will be able to attend online.

Participants who are close or casual contact of a positive case of COVID-19 are required to follow NSW Health Advice and only attend SYO online, until cleared.

If venue and NSW Health guidelines require masks to be worn indoors, all staff, percussionists and string players are required wear masks indoors (unless there is a medical exemption). In this situation, woodwind and brass participants must wear a mask indoors, however they may remove it once seated and ready to play their instrument.

SYO undertake a cleaning program before the first rehearsal and wipe-down equipment between any session where different participants perform in the same space.

	<p>SYO participants will be required to bring their own stands and mallets for percussion equipment.</p> <p>Each participant will use their own set of music, including string players who will be seated in single 'desks.'</p> <p>SYO will provide players of wind instruments with paper pads to capture any liquids released from their instruments. These will be disposed of by participants into bins provided at the end of rehearsal.</p> <p>Break times are restricted within the same groups to limit the number of contacts each musician has with others during the day.</p> <p>Access to any venue SYO uses including Santa Sabina College will have a designated SYO Area, and this area will be restricted to reduce contact between other persons onsite.</p> <p>Ensembles will be placed in rooms large enough to engage in 1.5 metre distancing for all players/conductors and will adhere to the NSW Health Orders.</p>
<p><i>Access control at Santa Sabina College campus or other hired venues</i></p>	<p>A designated SYO Area will be established within the Santa Sabina campus or other hired venues that prevents the movement of SYO people to other parts of the campus/site and precludes others from the designated area.</p> <p>Only one entrance/egress point into the SYO designated area of the campus/site.</p> <p>Parents, visitors, or non-essential persons are prohibited from entering SYO designated areas of the campus/site.</p> <p>Contact between SYO staff deployed at the campus/site is minimised where possible</p> <p>A set of bathrooms at the campus is isolated for SYO's exclusive use.</p> <p>SYO participants are prevented or actively discouraged from accessing common facilities at campus/site.</p>
<p><i>Avoiding infection from using public transport</i></p>	<p>SYO participants are strongly advised against the use of public transport to and from the program.</p> <p>SYO participants who must use public transport with are provided with advice (from NSW transport etc.) on suitable protection.</p>