

## Explore the Orchestra: BSO's KS2 Schools' Concerts

### How to prepare – Attending in person & Accessing the Livestream

Now that you are signed up to Explore the Orchestra and have all the resources you need to prepare musically for the concert, it's time for some more information on how to prepare logistically and what to expect on the day. There are two sections below: one for those attending the concerts in person and one for those accessing the livestream.

#### Schools attending in person

##### Preparation

- There will be an in-person CPD roughly two months before the concert. This will be an opportunity for you to learn the participatory elements to pass on to your children, as well as to ask any other musical advice from James Redwood.
- Approximately one month before the concert you will receive all final information from the BSO, including seating arrangements, specific timings, any access guides from venues, detailed coach information and any information or forms regarding photography
- You may want to consider in advance of the concert day how you would like your group to be seated – specifically thinking about children who may additional support by being seated next to an adult, as well as ensuring that specific classes are seated together, and children are seated near their friends
- The whole orchestra is an acoustic sound, but some elements of the concert can be loud in parts, therefore some children may want to bring ear defenders. It would be best to bring your own ear defenders if you think you'll need them, as the venues tend to not have spares.

##### On the day

- If possible, *please* discourage children from going to the toilet, especially if they don't need to! They may end up missing the best bits of the concert and when one goes, it ends up being a snowball effect which can be quite disruptive for the others. Please do try to dissuade pupils if you can!
- In the concert there will be a number of pieces of music that last up to 5 minutes each. There will be some music that is recognisable and some will be unfamiliar. We curate the programme to include a mixture of sound worlds that will both challenge the children, and be enjoyable and recognisable
- The orchestra would love it if your children showed their appreciation by clapping between each piece. Furthermore, we will ensure that your children will receive a round after they have taken part in the participatory songs
- There will be a screen above the orchestra with close up imagery of the musicians, pictures, lyrics for the participatory song, and the name of each piece

#### Schools accessing the Livestream

##### Preparation

- There will be an online CPD that you can attend roughly 1 month before the concert, where you can learn the participatory elements, and ask any other musical advice from James Redwood.
- Please do prepare the song and body percussion piece through the learning resources. It will make the experience for your children much more engaging if you join in from your class!

##### Technical information

- You can either watch live, or on demand for up to 30 days afterwards. Therefore, if you would like to screen it in an assembly or a specific lesson time it would be best to watch on demand.
- We recommend testing out your set up before you plan on accessing the livestream. Our digital concert technical assistance page has lots of advice on set up and equipment and has a video you can test out beforehand. You can access it [here](#). It will be more engaging for your children if it's on a screen as big as possible!
- We ensure the livestream contains many close-ups of instruments which we hope makes it visually stimulating

##### During the concert

- Whether you are watching the stream live or on demand, you will be able to pause the video at any time
- The concert will last about 1 hour and 15 minutes so please consider this when deciding when to screen it
- Please feel free to screen the video in the way you feel your students will engage the most. This could be showing it all in one go, or if this proves too taxing, you could pause and have breaks of any length
- We tend to do a warmup in the hall that you will see on the countdown to the concert, please do feel free to join in with this, or lead your own warm up to get everyone ready and settled