



Video Auditions Guide 2020/21

CBSO Youth Orchestra

In light of the ongoing Covid-19 situation, we will be taking auditions for the CBSO Youth Orchestra via pre-recorded videos uploaded to YouTube. Please refer to this guide on how to prepare, record, upload, and finally submit your video audition in time for the deadline of Friday 29th May 2020.

Preparing for your video audition

You will be sent an audition booklet for your instrument, which will detail what orchestral excerpts and repertoire you need to prepare. This varies by instrument, so please read this very carefully, to ensure you have rehearsed correctly ahead of your final recording.

If your cover sheet lists 4 or more orchestral excerpts, please choose 3 to perform. If your booklet has 3 or fewer excerpts listed, please prepare them all. All pieces must be performed as unaccompanied, including any pieces of your own choosing – this includes not using backing tracks.

Recording criteria

For your video audition to be passed onto the panel, please ensure your video is:

- Of you, facing the camera, performing the specified repertoire as unaccompanied;
- Recorded in one take, with no editing;
- As close to 15 minutes as possible in length (no longer than 20 minutes);
- Well-lit and clear with your face and full instrument clearly in frame;
- Recorded with decent audio in a quiet location, to capture the nuances of your performance.

Additionally, please record your audition in the following order:

1. An introduction of you stating to the camera your: full name; age; school/university year; instrument; and what you will be playing.
2. Orchestral excerpts in the order listed on the cover sheet (re-state title and composer before playing).
3. Depending on what your cover sheet says, either the set pieces in the order listed, or a piece of your own choosing (re-state title and composer before playing).

If you are auditioning on two instruments (e.g. flute and piccolo), do the excerpts and set piece as above on the primary instrument, before moving to the second instrument following the same format.

Your video can be filmed anywhere you are comfortable, provided there is no excessive or disruptive background noise. There is also no specified dress code.



Upload criteria

For your video audition to be passed onto the panel, please ensure your video is uploaded to YouTube as:

- An unlisted video;
 - If you are unsure how to upload your video, please refer to [this video tutorial](#).
 - This means only those people with the link can view it, and it doesn't appear in search results or on your profile. Do not upload your audition as a public or private video.
- As close to 15 minutes as possible, but no longer than 20 minutes;
 - We will accept uploads showing a timecode of up to 20:01, as YouTube automatically adds an extra second to each video.
- Titled using the following format: Instrument – Surname, First name – CBSO Youth Orchestra Audition 2020/21;
 - e.g. Cello – Bloggs, Joe – CBSO Youth Orchestra Audition 2020/21

Videos can be uploaded by parents/guardians to their own channels if you'd prefer your child not to upload the video themselves. Please do not remove your videos from YouTube before Friday 2nd October 2020, to allow the panel enough time to consider and review applications.

How to submit your audition

Auditions should be submitted via email to education@cbso.co.uk. For the email subject line, please use the title of the video (same as the format above). Your email body should then include:

1. Your full name, age, school/university year, instrument, and what you will be playing;
2. A hyperlink to your unlisted video upload;
3. For those with a piece of your own choosing – if you are able to scan your music, we advise including this in the application.
 - a. If you don't have a scanner, feel free to send legible photos of the music (one photo per page, taking up full image).
 - b. Sending music is not compulsory, but we would encourage it if you are able to.
 - c. Email attachments or links to file-sharing sites are fine, whatever is best for you.

Submission deadline

All audition videos must be submitted by Friday 29th May 2020. However, we would advise uploading your video to YouTube by Monday 25th May, allowing enough time to get in touch with us about any technical difficulties, as we may be able to help resolve them. You are also welcome to submit your video well in advance of this deadline if you are ready to. After the deadline closes, videos will then be collated into a private YouTube playlist and passed on to the panel.

We would like to wish you the best of luck in your audition, and we can't wait to hear your performances. If you have any questions, please email education@cbso.co.uk and someone will get back to you at the earliest opportunity.