

WANDSWORTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

REHEARSAL & CONCERT DATES 2025/26

Dear Wandsworth Philharmonic Orchestra members, parents and carers,

I hope you are well and have had a relaxing summer break! Whether you are a brand new member, or returning for another year, we are excited for you to be a part of the WPO community, and look forward to an exciting year of sharing music with you!

I am writing to share details about the 25-26 academic year rehearsals, half term orchestral courses, and performances.

The key dates are outlined below and can also be found on the WPO webpage www.wandsworthmusic.co.uk/wpo along with other important information about WPO. This page will be updated throughout the year.

****ACTION****

Please read the following information and confirm your child's attendance at rehearsals, half term courses and performances for 2025/26 by completing this [FORM](#) by Monday 29 September at the latest.

ADDITIONALLY MEMBERS WHO ATTEND A LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL IN YEARS 7-11 MUST ALSO:

Ask the Headteacher/Principal at your school for permission to leave school early to attend the rehearsals/performances at Fairfield Halls in December. Follow this [LINK](#) and edit the letter appropriately before sending to your headteacher/principal.

****to clarify if you attend an academy, free or private school or are in Year 12 or 13 you can ignore this section****

Rehearsals

Unless otherwise notified, rehearsals take place in the main drama hall or refectory at Burntwood School. Rehearsals **start promptly at 10.30am**, so please ensure that you are in your seat, warmed up and ready to start playing at that time. (You should arrive by 10.15am unless you have another WMA lesson beforehand).

At the end of rehearsals please help to tidy away chairs, stands and music. Our percussionists will always appreciate anyone willing to lend a hand in moving the instruments back into the store cupboard!

It is **extremely important** that members are able to attend all rehearsals (including the half term course) and are downloading their music, looking at difficult passages **with their teachers** and practising **before rehearsals**. As always, practice parts can be found online here: www.tinyurl.com/wandsworthmusic

A reminder that WPO members are expected to:

- Give their full commitment and have regular and punctual attendance at all regular rehearsals, courses, workshops and performances.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time (unless coming from another WMA lesson)
- Be prepared for rehearsals by:
 - Downloading the relevant music for their instrument(s).

- Learning parts thoroughly before the rehearsals.
- Taking music to their lessons to go through with their teacher.
- Bring a pencil and rubber to rehearsals
- Follow rehearsal etiquette by turning off mobile phones and paying full attention to the conductor

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal or are running late or unwell on the day of a rehearsal or performance, please inform John (07966 426345) as soon as possible.

KEY WPO DATES 2025-26

Full details of WPO rehearsal dates can be found here: www.wandsworthmusic.co.uk/wpo

please note rehearsals now start at 10,30am

30, 31 Oct, 1 Nov 2025: Autumn Half Term Course (full attendance expected)

Sat 29 Nov 2025: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sat 6 Dec 2025: WPO rehearsal will start at the earlier time of 9.30am and run until 12pm

Thurs 11 Dec 2025: Winter Sounds at Fairfield Halls, 2.30pm arrival, 7pm concert

19,20,21 Feb 2026: Spring Half Term Course (full attendance expected)

Sat 14 & 21 Mar 2026: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Wed 25 Mar 2026: Brighter Sounds at Fairfield Halls, c.2.30pm arrival, 7pm concert

Sat 27 June 2026: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sat 4 July 2026: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sun 5 July 2026: Additional rehearsal for Tour & Wimbledon (10am-3pm)

Tues 7 July 2026: Wimbledon Tennis Championships, subject to final confirmation, 8.30am arrival

Sat 11 July: WMA Summer Concert - WPO rehearsal will start at the earlier time of 9.30am and run until 12pm

Sat 18 July 2026: WPO Summer Serenade Concert - All saints Church. (11am-4pm rehearsal, 5pm concert)

20-25 July 2026: Summer Tour to Germany.

Tour to Germany - For more information regarding the tour please see the letter on the [WPO webpage](#)

If you have not yet signed up for the tour please [CLICK HERE](#)

Further information regarding 2026 concert dates will be sent in due course.

WINTER SOUNDS 2, THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2025 – CONCERT INFORMATION

Venue: Fairfield Halls, Park Ln, London CR9 1DG

Arrival time: 2.30pm

All members **must** attend the afternoon rehearsal. Please let us know if you have difficulty getting permission to leave school early.

After rehearsal: Pupils will be allocated a holding area in Fairfield Halls and supervised by Wandsworth Music staff between the rehearsal and the concert.

Concert Start time: 7pm

Finish time of concert: The concert is scheduled to finish at approximately 9pm. Groups will be allocated a collection point for parents at the end of the evening.

Wandsworth Music contact number on the day: Aurelie Sciamma - 07767 670611

TICKETS

Tickets are priced at £12 – £15 and can be purchased directly from Fairfield Halls. Tickets are also available via this link:

<https://www.fairfield.co.uk/events/wandsworth-winter-sounds-2-2025>

Please double check that you are purchasing tickets for the correct concert!

CONCERT DRESS

Concert dress for all performances is **SMART ALL BLACK**:

Smart black trousers or knee length skirt or dress/ plain black shirt/ blouse/ black socks or tights/ polished black shoes (Sportswear and trainers are not acceptable).

HALF TERM COURSE DETAILS – COURSES TAKE PLACE AT BURNTWOOD SCHOOL

A polite reminder that all members are expected to attend the half term courses as these provide opportunities for intensive sectional rehearsals and coaching. The cost of each half term course is £72 (or £36 if in receipt of a FSM bursary)

30 and 31 October, 1 November - Autumn Half Term Course

9:45am – Arrive (Thurs, Fri, Sat)

10am to 3pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Thurs & Fri)

10am to 1pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Sat)

19,20,21 February - Spring Half Term Course

9:45am – Arrive (Thurs, Fri, Sat)

10am to 3pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Thurs & Fri)

10am to 1pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Sat)

The WPO repertoire for this year will include (all parts on dropbox unless stated)

Excerpts from Romeo and Juliet (Prokofiev Suites 1,2,3)

An American In Paris

Conga Del Fuego

Do You Hear What I Hear

The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year

The Prayer

Bruno Mars Medley

Roar

Rockin' Robbin

Gift Aid

As a registered charity we are able to claim gift aid on WMA membership fees.

Gift Aid provides vital additional funds for charities and it costs you nothing extra to allow us to claim it. In order to access this additional source of funding we need a gift aid declaration from each parent who is prepared to support us in this way.

Please support us by completing the gift aid form here - <https://wandsworthmusic.co.uk/giftaid/>