

Educational Services

Director: Douglas Hutchison

County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr KA7 1DR

Principal Teacher of Instrumental Music: Shonagh Stevenson

South Ayrshire Music Service, Ayr Town Hall, New Bridge Street, Ayr KA7 1JX

Telephone: 01292 617612

www.music.south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Follow us on Twitter @SAMusicService

E-mail – MusicServices@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Guardian,



South Ayrshire Schools' Orchestras - String Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra – Session 2016/17

All young people in South Ayrshire who receive instrumental instruction in any form, in or out of school, are given the extended opportunity of playing in an authority orchestra. Playing in an orchestra enhances your child's musical experience and pupils who attend these activities improve and develop their skills quickly. Your child will have received this letter from an instructor/teacher who feels that they are of a suitable standard to join this activity.

The orchestras meet for 12 rehearsals on a Friday evening from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Queen Margaret Academy, Ayr and rehearsals are led by a team of instrumental instructors and music teachers. The rehearsals will culminate with an evening performance in Ayr Town Hall on **Tuesday 7th February 2017** at 7pm.

Instructors/teachers will use their professional judgement to assign your child to the correct orchestra and will organise the seating arrangements. We generally state Grade 1/2 for String Orchestra and Grade 3/5 for Symphony Orchestra. These orchestras are very popular and spaces will fill up quickly.

23rd September 2016 – Registration night and first rehearsal. Please arrive with your child for a 6.30pm start. Please bring a completed registration form, and subscription fee of £25. If anyone has any difficulty covering this cost, please do not see it as a barrier and contact the Music Service office on 617612 or e-mail MusicServices@south-ayrshire.gov.uk. If your child travels from Troon or Girvan/Maybole then bus/taxi transport is available. More information about transport arrangements will be available at the first rehearsal.

New parents: Please stay with your child on registration night until they have been allocated to the correct orchestra. There will be a brief information session for new parents from 6.45pm – 7.00pm. You are welcome to leave after this before picking your child up at 8.30pm.

All communication will be by e-mail from MusicServices@south-ayrshire.gov.uk. After registration, if you have not received an e-mail in the first few weeks then please speak to any member of staff or a member of the Parents Committee on a Friday evening. They will be pleased to help. We also have a secure Facebook Page where we share information – search **South Ayrshire Schools' Orchestras** and request to join.

Rehearsal Dates:

23 September 2016	30 September 2016	21 October 2016
28 October 2016	04 November 2016	11 November 2016
18 November 2016	25 November 2016	13 January 2017
20 January 2017	27 January 2017	03 February 2017

07 FEBRUARY 2017 – CONCERT. AYR TOWN HALL. 7PM.

PLEASE NOTE

THERE ARE NO REHEARSALS ON 7TH OCT, THE MONTH OF DECEMBER AND DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

We look forward to welcoming you and your child and please remind your child to bring their instrument and a music stand.

Kind regards

Shonagh Stevenson
South Ayrshire Music Service