



NATIONAL BOYS CHOIR
OF AUSTRALIA

Elementary Choristers Circular No. 1

Tuesday 9 February 2021

***Welcome to the National Boys Choir of
Australia***

Thank you for attending our Parent information session last week. We enjoyed meeting you all, and we hope that you will enjoy your association with the Choir!

COVID-19

With new cases of community transmission in Melbourne, the following rules now apply:

- Please wear a face mask (except under 12 years old, or if you have an exemption)
- If anyone in your household is sick, please do not come to Choir
- If you have been to any of the exposure sites as listed here:
<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19> please follow DHHS instructions regarding isolation and testing

REHEARSAL COVID-SAFE PLAN

Please observe the Choir's **COVID-Safe Plan**:

- Please drop off and pick-up your son from the carpark - *the office will be available after rehearsal has commenced, but the foyer remains closed*
- Doors will not open until five minutes before rehearsal commences
- On arrival, boys will be asked to clean their hands
- Boys will move straight to their places in the studio, keeping a 1.5 metre distance away from each other, following the tape markings on the floor
- Boys are reminded to wash their hands thoroughly after using the toilet, and to cough or sneeze into a tissue, handkerchief or their elbow

HOMEWORK

It is important for the boys to spend time each week at home revising the skills they are learning at choir. We recommend 15 to 30 minutes practice at least every second day to revise music notes, lyrics and material covered from our weekly rehearsals. Practice tracks will be available to download from the NBCA website; we will alert you in the Circular when you need to download these.

REHEARSAL TIMES

Rehearsals for Term 1 each Wednesday commence at 4:45pm and conclude at 5:45pm.

All term dates and times are also listed on the NBCA website once you've logged in

ALL weekly circulars will be forwarded via email (unless advised otherwise)

<https://nationalboyschoir.com.au/choir-community/>



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ELEMENTARY CHOIR STAFF

Staff biographies are available on the Choir website:

www.nationalboyschoir.com.au - About Us

OFFICE

Please contact Mrs de Jonge and Mrs Eldred in the office with any problems or queries.

Office hours are: Monday 9:00am – 7:00pm
 Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 3:00pm
 Wednesday and Friday 9:00am – 7.00pm
P 9872 4480 E office@nationalboyschoir.com.au

Ms Brook can be contacted by leaving a message at the Choir office or by speaking directly with her after rehearsals.

APOLOGIES

If your son is unable to attend a rehearsal, please email office@nationalboyschoir.com.au or contact the office on 9872 4480 and leave an apology. There is an answering machine to take messages outside office hours.

NBCA Music Satchels

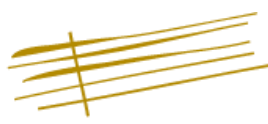
Music satchels should be with the boys whenever they are at Choir. We remind you that it is the responsibility of every boy to keep his music satchel in good condition. If it is lost or damaged, a new one can be purchased from the office at a cost of \$10. Boys also require a pencil and eraser in their satchels for all rehearsals. Please check your son's satchel weekly for notices you need to action.

Health & Emergency Contacts

The health and welfare of the boys is our priority. It is important that we are aware of any health issues that may require our attention when the boys are in our care. We ask that you keep us updated if any personal details change. If your son has asthma, allergies and/or anaphylaxis, please ensure they carry puffers, expanders, medications and epipens in their satchels whenever they're at Choir.

Photos of Choristers

During rehearsal this week, we will be taking individual headshot photos of all Elementary choristers. These photos are used for internal Choir purposes only. The photos help our staff identify each chorister during their time at Choir.



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Correspondence – other than circulars – to and from the Choir

All choristers have been allocated a Choir number (e.g. *Jack Smith E24*) and a pigeonhole in the rehearsal studio with their numbers. Any correspondence other than weekly circulars (generally printed on yellow paper) will be collected from their pigeonholes and brought home in their satchels. You will be notified to expect such correspondence in advance in the Circular. Boys are encouraged to check their pigeonholes at the end of each rehearsal.

Tax invoices will be emailed to you at the start of each term (commencing Term 2).

We encourage you to chat with the Office staff during the rehearsal if you have any Choir-related questions, or if you need to hand in completed forms, pay fees in person, etc. If the office is unattended, please use the letter box directly beneath the office window. This is a locked box and any notes/money will be collected the following day.

ADDRESSES

A 2021 Elementary Choir Directory list will be available to all Elementary Chorister families in the next couple of weeks. We encourage parents to car-pool and share the driving wherever possible; this is not a major issue in the younger groups but becomes a real asset when the boys move on to the Performing Choir. We will publish details according to the permission you gave us on the registration form.

If you wish to add your details to this directory, please contact the office.

CAR PARK

- Please park only in marked spaces, not in staff parking bays, yellow painted areas or in the garden
- Speed limit is strictly 10 km/h – there are lots of children around
- Traffic is one way, in a clockwise direction