



NATIONAL BOYS CHOIR OF AUSTRALIA

Junior Choristers Circular No. 1

Tuesday 9 February 2021



We welcome three new choristers **Sammy Hines, Tate Langford** and **Zachary Lau** into the Junior Choir. We hope you and your families enjoy your time with the NBCA.

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 made available for the boys to use and details regarding these will be placed in the weekly circular.

A few reminders...

REHEARSALS in Term 1 commence at 6:00pm and conclude at 7:15pm. Choristers are expected to arrive 10 minutes beforehand so they're ready to start promptly at 6:00pm.

All term dates and times are 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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CHOIR NUMBER

Your son's choir number may have changed – please make a note. For our new starters, you will be allocated a choir number which is viewable on your pigeonhole in the rehearsal room. Artistic staff will guide all choristers to their new pigeonholes.

APOLOGIES

If for some reason your son is unable to attend a rehearsal, please email office@nationalboyschoir.com.au or phone Mrs de Jonge and Mrs Eldred in the office on 9872 4480 and leave an apology. There is an answering machine to take messages outside office hours.

PERSONAL DETAILS

New Personal Details forms went home with boys last week. We ask that you check and complete details where necessary and return in person or by scan and email by Wednesday 17 February at the latest. Thank you! 😊

HEALTH & EMERGENCY CONTACT (HECs FORM)

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.

These forms went home with boys last week, too. Again, we ask that you complete, sign and return to us by next week along with copies of any medical plans. There will be filed for the current year and we ask that you keep us informed of any changes.

If your son has asthma, allergies and/or anaphylaxis, please ensure they carry puffers, expanders, medications and epipens in their satchels whenever they are at Choir.

Photos of Choristers

During rehearsal this week, we will be taking individual headshot photos of any Junior choristers we don't have on file. These photos are used for internal Choir purposes only. The photos help our staff identify new choristers during their time at Choir.

ADDRESSES

We propose to produce a 2021 Junior Choir Directory for all Junior 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.

Please advise us by Wednesday 17 February if you would like your details (name, phone and email) to be included in the Directory.



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Correspondence – other than circulars – to and from the Choir

Almost all correspondence will go home via email, but all choristers also have an allocated pigeonhole. From time to time we may send material home via the boys – such as concert flyers. You will be notified of this in advance via the Circular, and boys will be encouraged to check their pigeonholes at the end of each rehearsal. Term invoices will be emailed to all families, starting this week. Prompt attention is always appreciated. 😊

Any correspondence coming to the choir – term fees, notes etc. can be delivered directly to the office as you arrive for rehearsal. 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.

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

Things to do before next rehearsal:

- ✓ Return HECS and personal details forms
- ✓ Advise permission to circulate details within the Choir community in the Directory