

FESTIVAL POLICY

1. Federation marking guidelines

Please note that Federation Adjudicators working at our Festival will allocate marks using the following guidelines:

90+	An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically
87 – 89	An excellent performance technically and artistically
84 – 86	A convincing performance technically and artistically
81 – 83	A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability
78 – 80	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication
75 – 77	A performance limited in its communication.

Awards will continue to be made according to the Southend Musical Festival scheme (please refer to General Conditions for Competition in this Syllabus). Any performer wishing to know more about the British & International Federation of Festivals and its recommended guidelines should contact:

Festivals House, 198 Park Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 6UD www.federationoffestivals.org.uk

2. Child Protection Policy

The Festival's Child Protection Policy and our approach to Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone is published explicitly in our Syllabus, our Programme and on our website. This includes the very latest best practice recommendations from the British and International Federation of Festivals working in partnership with the NSPCC and Children England under the SafeNetwork banner.

3. Festival Policy on the use of Cameras and Video/Audio Recording Equipment

Please note that we do **NOT** allow cameras, video recorders or audio recorders in the Performance Hall; the presence of such equipment would make it impossible for the Festival to guarantee adherence to the following rulings:

- (i) **Child Protection**: the permission of the parent or guardian of every child under 18, or vulnerable adult of any age, must be obtained if a photograph or recording is made of that child/vulnerable adult;
- (ii) **Copyright**: every person recording would have to have an appropriate current licence from the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society – this licence would have to be checked by the Festival on the day; every person recording must have the permission of the owner of the venue and of ALL performers; adjudicators' words are copyright and written permission must be obtained before they can be reproduced; the Festival is always responsible for upholding copyright and would therefore be ultimately liable for any breach.

In addition to the above, the use of cameras and/or recording equipment can be **disruptive** and off-putting for the competitors, to the detriment of their performance – a significant amount of hard work will have gone into their preparation for this performance and it is only fair to them that we do everything to ensure that we provide the best possible platform for them on the day.

4. Time Limits

Competitors are reminded that spoken introductions count towards their use of the time limit.

5. Adjudicator Copies of Own Choice Pieces

Competitors are reminded of the importance of providing a copy of their own choice piece(s) for the Adjudicator. The copy(ies) should be brought to the Festival and handed in at the appropriate time (with the exception of own composition pieces, which should be submitted in advance, according to the instructions in the Syllabus). **Failure to provide an Adjudicator's copy may result in a loss of marks; there are only limited photocopying facilities at the Festival itself.**

6. Scheduling of Classes

The Festival makes efforts to schedule classes outside of school hours for those of secondary school age. We would like to stress, however, that visits to the Festival are widely acknowledged to be valuable educational experiences and would encourage those in a position to grant leave of absence from school to regard them as such. The Festival's links with the local Music Hub, together with its designation as a Learning Destination under the auspices of the new Children's University scheme, provide further and substantial evidence of the educational nature attributed to the Festival.