

Dear Headteacher,

Re: MMF Music is for Life Concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday 11 March 7pm 2024

Request for pupil absence to attend a rehearsal during the school day of Monday 11 March 2024

You may well be aware that MMF is returning to the Royal Albert Hall after an absence of five years for another concert in our 'Music is for Life' series. This event is supported by funding from the DfE and presented by MMF as part of our ongoing music education work across the borough through the government's Local Plan for Music Education.

It will feature 1,500 local young people – 1,200 in a massed choir and 300 in a range of ensembles and bands. To ensure the highest standards of performance band members have been attending regular rehearsals at MMF and will have an additional rehearsal at the RAH on the day of the concert.

This concert is of an educational nature, organised by MMF, an educational body. We would be grateful if you would class it as an authorised absence under the Department for Education's School Attendance Guidance.

We believe that the experience of taking part in a celebration of live music-making at an iconic venue is an extraordinary once in a lifetime opportunity and will contribute significantly to a student's overall development, providing them with valuable insights and skills that extend to, and beyond the classroom. We kindly request your support and understanding in granting permission for participation in a daytime rehearsal for this enriching educational opportunity.

Important: children that attend a Local Authority Maintained School that are in Year 11 or below require an Individual Child License in order to participate in this event, for which a Headteacher's Approval Letter is required. If the child in question is affected by this, [Headteachers can click here to access a template letter](#) to issue to parents/guardians on school-headed paper (or visit: www.mmf.org.uk/child-licensing).

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With thanks and best wishes,



Elisabeth Wigley
Chief Executive
Merton Music Foundation