

Tuesday 23 September 2025
hlc/pmt/BBC SymphOrch/2026

Dear Parents

BBC Symphony Orchestra at The Anvil Basingstoke – Thursday 29 January 2026

We are organising an exciting trip to watch the BBC Symphony Orchestra play Brahms' Violin Concerto and Beethoven's Symphony No. 4 along with a pre-concert talk. The music played links to the GCSE Music and is also an enrichment opportunity for those in the school orchestra.

Travel to Basingstoke will be by coach. **The trip leaves from St John's at 16.45hrs on Thursday 29 January 2026**, with students meeting in the Atrium at 16.00hrs for a prompt departure at 16.45hrs. **The trip will return at approximately 23.00hrs on Thursday 29 January 2026.**

Parents will need to make their own travel arrangement for students to and from St John's at these times. Students may wish to stay at St John's between the end of the school day and the trip departure, however, please note that there will not be any adult supervision until 16.00hrs.

Students will need to wear smart, comfortable clothing suited to the weather conditions on the day. You will need to provide your son/daughter with a packed dinner to be eaten on the coach. **Please note that The Anvil is a cashless venue.**

The cost of the trip is £27.00. To secure your son/daughters place on the trip an initial deposit of **£10.00 will be required on or before Friday 10 October 2025.** Followed by a further payment of **£17.00 which is required by 12.00 noon on Friday 7 November 2025.**

Places are limited to 50 and if oversubscribed, we will look closely at student attendance, each student's effort grades, attitudes to learning and their ability to follow instructions around school before allocating places by random selection. Any student not allocated a trip place will receive a full refund.

Payment should be made online through ParentPay; you will not need to return the paper permission slip if you pay online. Payment can still be made by cheque with the completed permission slip at the end of this letter. If you have mislaid your log in details, please contact Mrs Shirley Woodburn on 01672 519567 or by emailing swoodburn@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk

In case of financial hardship, support is available from the St John's Opportunity Fund for Yr.7 to Yr.11 students and a letter to the Principal will be dealt with confidentially and sympathetically. OR for Yr. 12 & 13 students, Bursary Fund grants should be used towards the cost of this trip. To qualify for Bursary funding, attendance needs to be 95% or above and awards are dependent upon household income levels. If your son/daughter has not already applied, an application form can be obtained from the school. Proof of household income will need to be supplied to support the application.

Please be advised that by signing up your child up to a school trip you are entering into a financial agreement with St John's to pay the full cost of the trip by the due date advised. Once places have been confirmed trip payments will be non-returnable unless the school cancels the trip.

Please note that should parental request withdraw a student unless for a substantiated medical reason, parents will be liable for the full cost of the trip. All such withdrawals should be discussed, in the first instance, with Mrs Pauline Marshall-Thomas via trips@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk or DD 01672 51889

It is imperative that the students who we take on the trip are responsible and can follow instructions. We cannot take students who have had any exclusions this academic year or a substantial amount of negative behaviour points.

The organisation of all trips includes a comprehensive risk assessment. The Principal and Trip Organiser may choose to exclude from the trip any students whose behaviour or schoolwork is not satisfactory. *Any student withdrawn by St John's for these reasons will be at the expense of the parents. It is not possible to guarantee any refund of monies already committed by St John's and indeed expenses not already covered may be claimed from you.*

Please be aware that the medical information and contact details for your son/daughter that you have supplied for St John's records are printed and taken on the trip by the trip leader and their deputy in case an emergency arises. They are also supplied to the member of the Senior Leadership Team that is point of contact for the trip. The printouts are destroyed once the trip is over. By applying for a place on the trip, you are giving your consent for this information to be used for this purpose.

If your child is either asthmatic or has anaphylaxis, they must ensure that they always carry their inhaler or EpiPen on them during the trip.

Permission and deposits should be received on or before end of the school day on Friday 10 Oct 2025.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs H Crang
Head of Music**

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Trip Organiser – Mrs H Crang

Student: Tutor Group:

1. I give permission for my son/daughter to be included in the above-proposed trip.
2. I enclose an initial deposit of **£10.00** and confirm I will be making the full payment of **£27.00** by the final payment date.
3. I understand that there may be no refund due, should my child be withdrawn from the trip by St John's.
4. I accept that I will be liable for all costs incurred by St John's should I withdraw my child from the trip, should it not be possible to replace them with another student.
5. By signing your son/daughter up to attend trips you are taking responsibility for their behaviour whilst on the trip. Anti-social behaviour, poor attitude or rudeness will not be tolerated and may result in your son/daughter not being considered for future trips.

Signed:
(Parent)

Date:

IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO RETURN THE PERMISSION SLIP IF PAYING ONLINE