

MUSIC

1) There are some great free online concerts at the moment.

Watch a few of the items below. Perhaps listen to a composer you've never heard of before.

Can you spot musical features? If you're studying GCSE can you apply musical elements you've learnt about?

<https://www.lpo.org.uk/online-concert-archive.html>

<https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/concert/53365>

<https://www.classicfm.com/music-news/live-streamed-classical-music-concerts-coronavirus/>

2) How is your music reading? Treble better than Bass? Brush up on some theory here.

<https://www.musictheory.net/lessons>

E.g. Clefs - particularly bass if you're less clear on that. Key signatures and intervals are all useful too.

There are loads of useful exercises. e.g. note identification, or interval identification.

3) Practising your instrument or voice is something you can always do in isolation. Hopefully you have a teacher - contact them and ask them for some ideas for pieces to learn. Or research repertoire online of pieces you'd like to learn in the future. Perhaps you've neglected some aspect of technique you can work on?

4) Do a time-line for the different periods of music: Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century.

Make sure you know at least one composer and one piece in each period.

5) Compose a short piece of music related to the lockdown. Perhaps start with chords, then add a melody that works above them. It could be a song perhaps or an instrumental piece. Do major or minor keys suit the current situation better? Or atonality? Can you show optimism as well as reflect the difficulties of this time!?

Loads of ideas here:

<https://www.classicfm.com/music-news/coronavirus/best-online-classical-music-lessons-quarantine/>

[From keen beginners to fun-seeking families:
here are the best online music lessons available](#)

From video instrumental tuition to Skype singing lessons, here's how you can learn a new instrument, carry on with your vocal training or master your theory – either individually or with the whole family – while in quarantine.

www.classicfm.com

MUSIC

research



Concerts are one of the most immersive musical experiences and a lot can be learned from watching professionals perform.

We're lucky enough to have **Symphony Hall** and the **CBSO** (a world class orchestra) on our doorsteps. Google Symphony Hall and you'll also find works playing at the **Town Hall** - a wide range of repertoire from popular classics to film.

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire also puts on high quality performances, often at very reasonable prices.

<https://studentpulse.london.co.uk/>

This free Student Pulse app for your phone allows you to book cheap tickets for CBSO, Ex Cathedra, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and more.

<https://www.thsh.co.uk/event/symphony-hall-tour>

Tours such as this can provide valuable insight into the world of professional music and the venues responsible for hosting it.

Listening to the radio is an easy way to familiarise yourself with different genres and practice applying musical terminology.

Classic FM: A friendly introduction to classical music.

Radio 3: Intelligent commentary.

Listen to 20 minutes of radio and write down what you hear and the musical features you notice. Then look up the composer and their piece online and find out a bit more. How does it relate to your set works? Could it be a wider listening?

concerts

Joining an ensemble can not only boost your confidence performing, but also be a way to socialise.

♪ **Birmingham Cathedral Choir**

A professional choir based in St Philip's Cathedral

♪ **Birmingham Schools Ensembles**

Free entry ensembles across various grades

♪ **Solihull Symphony Orchestra**

A good standard amateur orchestra based between Coventry and Birmingham in the West Midlands

♪ **Solihull Music Service Ensembles**

A wide range of lessons for different instruments and levels



Entering a competition would provide you with both the motivation and opportunity to improve yourself as a musician, regardless of where you place.



1. **Solihull Symphony Orchestra** has a **Rising Stars** concert each year where you can audition to perform a movement from a concerto
2. **BBC Young Musician Competition:** the ultimate competition if you're grade 8 distinction level or above
3. **BBC Radio 3** has a carol writing competition every year

performing

Perform whenever possible!

- Busk on open day
- Play at the end of year art exhibition
- Volunteer to play solo in the next concert
- Record yourself playing a recital piece in the studio and listen back

DIGITAL THEATRE+

Username: solihullsf
Password: ssfc222

A website with a good selection of high quality media, including works by: Stravinsky, Schubert, Mendelssohn and Berlioz.

