

Child Performance Licence – when needed and how to apply

This year, Gloucestershire County Council has insisted that any Year 11 or under child who attends a local authority-maintained school and whose weekday performance class begins before 4:00 pm, must be licenced to perform at the Festival. Entries made by the school where the child's education is provided do not need a licence.

We have been contacting as many parents as possible of children who meet these criteria and emailing the application form to them. However, we know there are many children who have been entered by either their school teacher, or their dance, music, or drama teacher, whose contact details we don't have (in previous years this not been necessary).

If your child needs a licence to perform, as set out above, please download the Licence Application Form now and follow the instructions and guidance. The licence application form must be completed by the child's parent and then sent, with a photograph of the child and the child's birth certificate, to: brianharding17@btinternet.com. An electronic signature and attached photos of the required documents will be acceptable. We would greatly prefer an email return, but a postal return will also be accepted.

In our opinion the licence application process is onerous, outdated and over-complicated. However, we have tried to make it as easy as possible by partially completing Part 1 of the form. The Festival was not told about this change of policy until mid-December, so our tried and tested Festival planning procedures were not set up to make this an easy process. Compliance with this new requirement has placed a huge extra burden on our Festival preparations, but we are determined that the Festival should go ahead as planned for the sake of all the children who have worked over the past months to prepare and practice their performances.

Please do not delay in preparing your return - we will do all we can to help. Although the County Council has promised to be as flexible as possible, we need to submit the completed applications as soon as possible. Please remember that the licence does not remove the parents' responsibility to obtain permission for any absence from school that may be required, or to be responsible for the continuous supervision of their child.

If you have any questions about the licence requirement itself, please contact the Gloucestershire County Council Officer dealing with this matter:
victoria.burt@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

With thanks and very best wishes

Brian Harding – CFPA Hon. Secretary