

To all Lambeth Headteachers, Executive Headteachers,
Heads/Acting Heads of School
30th January 2017

Dear Colleague,

This letter is regarding the role of Lambeth schools in recording absences when their pupils take part in music performances away from school premises.

Schools may have had pupils performing on stage or working as models or playing sport in a professional capacity which involves the promoter or organiser requesting licences from the Local Authority in which the children live. The licensing legislation is to ensure appropriate safeguarding of pupils and that there is 'proper provision for health and kind treatment.' Pupils who have been granted performance licences by Lambeth, "shall be deemed to be absent with leave". Curtis Grant is Lambeth's Child Employment Officer and is responsible for issuing licences for these pupils and ensuring that proper processes are in place.

There are circumstances where **licences for pupil performances are not required**:

1. When **Lambeth schools** organise and produce performances by their pupils;
2. **When pupils take part in what are termed as 'private performances.'** These occur **outside school hours** where pupils perform to each other or to families and friends **only** and where **no** charge is made and no media broadcast is made. For example, private performances take place at Lambeth's Saturday Music Centre and at Wheatsheaf Hall during In Harmony rehearsals and performances.
3. When **Lambeth schools organise educational visits to perform during school time.** For example when schools arrange for groups or classes of children to rehearse and perform at the Lambeth Music Festival. Lambeth LA has agreed that visiting Southbank Centre to perform at the Lambeth Music Festival helps to fulfil the statutory curriculum for music up to and including KS3, namely: '*play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression*'. In these instances all schools must follow the **absence requirements for school trips** and take full responsibility for the safeguarding and health and safety of their pupils at all times. This will ensure that the LA is satisfied that the activity is part of the school curriculum and the school is taking responsibility for its pupils.

If you have any questions about the information above please do not hesitate to contact Curtis Grant cgrant2@lambeth.gov.uk regarding licences or Judith Hare jhare@lambeth.gov.uk regarding the information in this letter.

With best wishes,



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