



## Guidance Notes for Booking an Aloud Choir

Thank you for your interest in booking an Aloud Choir (Only Boys Aloud, Only Girls Aloud, Only Kids Aloud or the Only Boys Aloud Academi) for your event.

Before filling in the booking form below, please read the following guidance notes to ensure that your event fulfils our criteria:

- Performance Fee:** Only Boys Aloud, Only Girls Aloud and Only Kids Aloud are part of The Aloud Charity. We fundraise in order to sustain the existence of the charity and are unable to subsidise local events. A performance fee is available on request. **Sound equipment, chaperones, conductor fees and travel costs are not included in the fee. These may be at an additional cost. Each request will be looked at and costed individually.**
- Notice:** Requests for performances should be made a **minimum of THREE MONTHS** in advance of the performance date.
- Dates:** Due to the logistics involved in working with large numbers of school-age children across a wide geographic area, Aloud choirs can only commit to a limited number of events per year. Most Aloud participants are at school or college. Performances are preferred at weekends. No performance is possible during school hours – ensuring Aloud activities don't impact on the participants' education is very important.
- Private events** Aloud is unable to provide a performance for an individual's private event (including parties, weddings and funerals) as these types of performances do not fulfill the criteria outlined below. Regretfully we would automatically decline these requests.
- Repertoire** Aloud choirs present programmes of up to a maximum of 30 minutes of music. The programme and length of programme is at the discretion of the Creative Director.
- Licences** Depending on the nature of the event, it is often necessary for the event promoter to obtain an individual performance licence from their local authority in order to take part in an OBA performance. This is relevant when working with participants aged 16 and under. In this instance, Aloud will process the applications on event promoters' behalf (subject to agreement from the relevant authorities). However, please be aware that as the organiser and promoter of the event you will be required to:
- Complete and sign relevant sections of the license application form
  - Have a current Child Protection Policy in place which will be shared with the relevant Local Authority.
  - Provide a Risk Assessment of the event as part of the licence application.
- Facilities** The performance venue must have enough adequate dressing room spaces and suitable toilet facilities to accommodate the number of singers and attendant staff (chaperones, conductor, Aloud staff as appropriate). Accessibility, parking and general appropriateness of the venue will also be taken into account.

## **Programming Policy**

The Aloud Charity exists to encourage young people from across Wales to take part in group singing. This not only supports the tradition of choral singing in Wales but inspires a culture of aspiration and self-value, enriching the lives of each individual member as well as their communities and the wider cultural landscape of Wales.

Given the restricted number of events we can commit to, we are very specific about the *nature* of events that Aloud participants undertake.

We use the following guidelines as a basis when considering whether to support a local event:

- Does the engagement benefit the choir members themselves?
- Will the opportunity contribute to their development as individuals and as performers.
- Does the engagement benefit the organisation?
- Will the performance enhance the name/profile of Aloud a positive way, which may lead to other opportunities?
- Does the engagement benefit the communities in which the choir members live?
- Will it take place within close proximity to an existing Aloud choir?
- Will it encourage confidence in that area and local pride?

When making a request to book Only Boys Aloud, they may perform as their separate local choir(s) or as a combination of local choirs. Individuals or smaller groups do not represent the Aloud brand.

Any Aloud choir performing at a fundraising event which benefits another charity/charities is at the discretion of Aloud.

**Please note our Aloud choirs do not provide background singing and after dinner entertainment.**

## **Your Booking Request**

We are very fortunate to receive many performance requests. This means we can only support a small proportion of the events we are invited to participate in.

The decision as to whether an Aloud Choir accepts an invitation is entirely at the discretion of its management team and any decision made is final.

Having read the notes and guidelines above, if you would like to proceed in inviting an Aloud choir to perform at your event, please complete the application form on our website. We will receive your request automatically and will be in touch shortly.

**Thank you for your interest and for supporting The Aloud Charity.**