OFFICIAL GUIDE | 2026-2027

Solo Video Recording Setup

Choose a suitable recording space and position the camera before making the official continuous take.

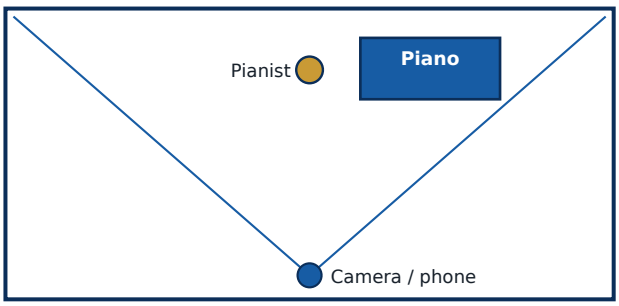
Choosing the recording venue

- Use a safe, quiet and well-lit room with enough space for the Soloist and accompanist, where applicable.
- Choose a plain, uncluttered background and remove visible personal information, pupil displays or other distractions.
- Avoid strong backlighting. Do not place performers directly in front of a bright window.
- Reduce background noise, including conversations, traffic, fans, ventilation systems and mobile-phone notifications.
- Use a school hall, music room, church, community venue or suitable room at home. Obtain the venue's permission where required.

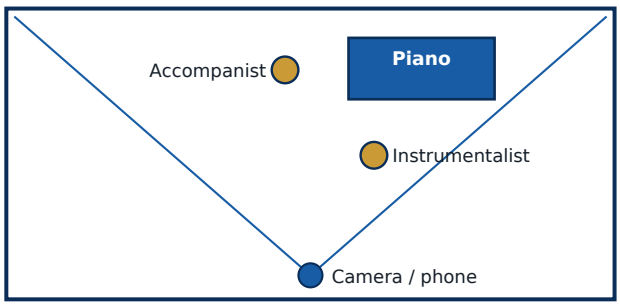
Preparing the camera

- Use landscape orientation and 1080p resolution. A 4K recording is not required.
- Place the camera or phone securely on a tripod or stable surface. Do not hold or move it during the performance.
- Where possible, use the main rear camera for better quality. The front camera may be used when necessary for framing or monitoring.
- Position the camera from the front at a natural height and leave enough distance to keep the full performance area in frame.
- Make a short test recording to check framing, focus, lighting and sound before recording the official take.

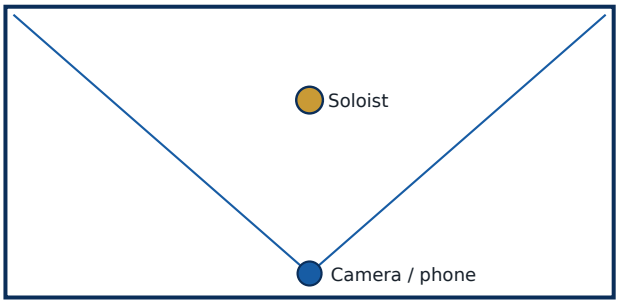
Setting for Pianist



Instrumentalist and Accompanist



Solo without Accompanist



Camera check
Keep the performer's face, hands and instrument visible. For piano, include the keyboard and pedals. If an accompanist is used, both people must remain in frame.

Diagram not to scale. Adjust the camera distance to keep the Soloist and accompanist clearly visible.

SOLO PERFORMANCE

Solo Video Submission Guide

A clear recording and sharing checklist for UK Schools Music Festival Video Solo entries.

One chosen work per entry. Record once, submit one continuous take, and share a directly playable view-only link.

Solo performance requirements

- Perform one chosen work only, matching the selected performance level and within its maximum time.
- Advanced entrants may perform one or more movements from the same work within 15 minutes. Movements from different works may not be combined.
- A lawful recorded accompaniment may be used if it is declared and does not contain or replace the entrant's Solo part.

Level	Standard	Maximum time
Junior	Grades 1-3 or equivalent	3 minutes
Intermediate	Grades 4-6 or equivalent	5 minutes
Senior	Grades 7-8 or equivalent	8 minutes
Advanced	Diploma standard or equivalent	15 minutes

Camera view for Solo entries

- Show the performer from the front. The face, hands and instrument must remain clearly visible throughout.
- For piano, show the face, hands, keyboard and pedals. Where an accompanist is used, both people must be visible in the same take.
- An external microphone is permitted if the sound and video are captured together in the same continuous take.

Record one complete take

- The recording must be made specifically for this UKSMF entry and must not be reused from a concert, examination or another competition.
- Do not trim, splice, combine, overdub, replace or alter any part of the video or audio.
- School uniform is permitted but not required. Clothing and production value do not affect the musical result.

UPLOAD AND SUBMIT

One simple method for every platform

You may use YouTube, Google Drive, Vimeo or another suitable online video platform. YouTube is shown only as an example.

Platform	Simple sharing setting
YouTube	Upload the video, choose Unlisted, then copy the video link. YouTube is an example only; it is not compulsory.
Google Drive	Upload the video and set General access to Anyone with the link - Viewer. Check that the video opens and plays in the browser.
Vimeo	Use an unlisted or link-access privacy setting and copy the playable video link.
Another platform	Use the equivalent view-only setting. The link must open and play directly without sign-in, an access request or a download.

Before submitting the link

- Set the video to Unlisted, view-only or the platform's equivalent link-access setting. Do not set it to Private.
- Open the link while signed out, or in a private browser window, and confirm that it plays immediately.
- The link must not require a login, permission request, special app or file download.
- Ensure that the video streams reliably. Compress an unusually large file before uploading if necessary.
- The video title or opening slate should show the entry number, category and repertoire without unnecessary personal information.
- Submit the playable link and a clear, legible score through the official UKSMF form. A score is required; if it is missing, the adjudicator will assess only what is heard, without score-based checking.
- Keep the video accessible to UKSMF personnel and adjudicators until 30 April 2027.

Video submission window: 1-28 February 2027. The deadline is 28 February 2027 at 23:59 UK time.

Final check

- The complete performance is one continuous, unedited take recorded specifically for this entry.
- The Solo entrant and any accompanist are clearly visible.
- The sound is clear and comes from the same recorded take.
- The score is legible and the video link has been tested while signed out.
- The registered adult has submitted the correct link through the official form.

This guide should be read together with the UKSMF 2026-2027 Rules and Regulations. If there is any inconsistency, the published Rules and Regulations take precedence.