Aims:
To develop orchestral technique specific to your instrument through rehearsing and performing major symphonic and operatic repertoire and, to provide members with invaluable experience in repertoire excerpts required at professional auditions.

Experiences gained through this process aims to fully equip students with the necessary skills to satisfactorily pursue an orchestral career. Through achieving a high level of detail in rehearsal, members of the RSO will develop the professional discipline needed in preparation to achieve the attention to detail needed to be successful musicians.

Individual part tests before each concert are designed to provide students with a quasi ‘audition’ practice setting.

Assessment:
Grades are awarded based on results in part-tests. Anything less than 100% attendance and quality of participation in rehearsals can only lower the awarded part-test grade.

All notes are expected to be learnt prior to the first rehearsal. Rehearsals are not for learning material, but putting it together.

Attendance:
Please refer to ‘Attendance Policy’
Members are expected to be present at ALL rehearsals. Exceptions will only be granted for ‘exceptional’ professional opportunities. Requests for excuses must be given IN WRITING with proof of invitation and/or other official material during the first week of classes. Only requests for excuses signed by the conductor and given to the Orchestra Managers will be considered valid.
There will be NO excused absences for the three rehearsals prior to a concert. This includes outside jobs that are scheduled poorly. Each unexcused absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter grade. Orchestra members are required to be in their chair ready to play five minutes before the start of the rehearsal or you are late!!! 3 absences = failure of the course. 2 tardies will act as one unexcused absence.

At the discretion of the Director, failure due to absence may be converted to an incomplete requiring candidate to complete another semester of orchestra to attain the 100% attendance.