



Music in Schools – Start Singing!

Every member of The Serlo Consort believes passionately in doing what we can to reverse the lack of singing taking place in our schools and colleges. Most members of the choir are musical educators in some way – either as vocal teachers, class music teachers, staff at the Royal School of Church Music, directors of youth choirs, etc. We have a great range of expertise to call on when working with young people, from primary school age children through to young adults.

We are available to help with the singing in your school, either choose from one of the workshops we offer, or we can tailor-make a special session to tie in with your particular curriculum or project (such as a school play or musical).

We most frequently come in to schools to work with a group of children for one or two sessions (lasting between 2-3 hours) which then culminates in some type of performance (i.e. - to other pupils, staff or parents). However, longer projects (such as a week's residency) can be arranged for a greater depth of achievement and understanding for the students. This may be particularly appropriate for older students – either GCSE or A level.

We are also often asked to come in to perform a short recital/concert of choral music to a larger group of students (a whole year group or more). The programme can be a mixture of musical styles and periods (from renaissance through to modern), or just simply a fun programme of modern, lighter choral music to engage the children and to make them associate singing with being a 'fun thing to do'.

Below are some suggestions of the type of activity that could take place in a workshop session: -

- Warm-ups and the basic techniques of vocal production
- Rounds & canons, singing in parts
- Tudor songs (in the curriculum for primary schools)
- Songs in different styles – gospel, pop, folk, etc
- Choral music of different musical periods (for GCSE or A level)
- Composing for voices (for GCSE or A level)

We would have at least two staff members leading a session with children, and for more advanced musical sessions, or those where the repertoire dictates it, we would expand the staff group to at least 4. The cost for these sessions depends on the time and location (and can be negotiated), but as a rough guide, for locations around London and the Home Counties: -

- 2 staff (afternoon session/short performance) £300
- 4 staff (afternoon session/short performance) £600
- 2 staff (morning & afternoon sessions/short performance) £500
- 4 staff (morning & afternoon sessions/short performance) £1000

All staff are fully CRB checked, professionally working with children on a daily basis.