



MusicShare is a singing outreach project involving Lichfield Cathedral Choristers/Young Singing Leaders supported by a partnership between Lichfield Cathedral School and Lichfield Cathedral and substantially funded by Arts' Council England via The Music Partnership.



Welcome from the Director, Cathy Lamb

Welcome back to **MusicShare's** second e-newsletter and to the new school year, which no doubt brings with it many challenges – but isn't it just so wonderful to have the kids back!?

If you are not familiar with it The MusicShare programme has existed in various forms since 2003 and has worked with over 15,000 children and 100s of schools. The focus of the programme in a nutshell is encouraging everyone to enjoy singing and the many benefits that come with it.

We hope that this newsletter will help steer you in the direction of some exciting resources and opportunities!

Supported using public funding by



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Professional Development Opportunities

Thursday 1st October, 4pm: Singing Network Session on Teams led by Harriet Johnson (City Music Service) & Cathy Lamb (MusicShare)

Please do join us for this session, which is there to give you ideas about how you can still sing during the current pandemic!

The Agenda is as below:

- **Guidance about singing** – clarifying the latest information
- **Care of the Voice** – for both the teacher and the pupils
- **Resources** – ideas and comments - warm ups – softer singing guidance – developing musicianship using musical elements
- **Time for Discussion** - and ideas for on-going support that teachers would appreciate

To book a place please email musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

Friday 2nd October, 8pm (and every first Friday of the month): Teachers' Friday night MusicShare Song Share on Zoom

Each month Cathy Lamb will be sharing her favourite repertoire ideas. If you are feeling brave – why not bring along a song you would like to share with everyone else?

If you would like to sign up for this then please contact musicshare@lichfieldcathedralschool.com

Singing in the time of Covid 19 – an update

Although the DfE have relaxed certain elements of their guidance (such as removing the number 15 as a cap for singing and brass) it still remains clear that a detailed risk assessment should be in place, taking into account the following mitigating measures:

- social distancing guidelines from the government in place at the time (ultimately it appears clear that at least a 2-metre square between singers is important, whether or not they are in the same bubble)
- the space you are using (ultimately singing outdoors is going to be a lot safer)
- can you work with smaller groups (ultimately there are going to be few spaces where you can accommodate a whole class with social distancing in place)
- ventilation if using an indoor space (keeping windows and doors open is crucial as there does seem to be evidence to suggest that aerosols build up collectively over time)
- singing without the need for printed resources (use a whiteboard if possible or teach by rote)
- if you have somebody leading from the front make sure that they are well away from potential aerosols and (use a screen or wear a visor, stand more than 2-metres away)

Several organisations have created excellent risk assessment templates – in particular the templates from **Music Mark** would seem most appropriate to a school setting:

<https://www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/types/guides/>

If I want to sing utilising the white board – what resources are available to me?

Thanks to lockdown there are some amazing free resources that have popped up online – here are a few examples:

MusicShare Virtual Singing Assemblies Don't forget to tap into our 10-minute singing assemblies. There are already 8 available online via Entrust Music Service & City Music Service You Tube channels. Further assemblies will be going up week-by-week.

Voices Foundation Virtual Singing Assemblies The Voices Foundation recorded 33 virtual singing assemblies during lockdown plus some particular videos on repertoire – all of which are excellent.

National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCOS) This amazing organisation recorded a daily singing challenge during lockdown and there are a huge amount of resources with cup games. All songs that NYCOS use are songs based on the Kodaly method of singing and are fabulous for developing musicianship skills.

All of these resources have several things in common that are great examples of good repertoire choices for children of this age:

- A strong steady pulse
- A sensible range – most songs are within an octave and do not go lower than Middle C or higher than an E
- Most are not too wordy
- Most have actions/body percussion that can be added, all great for coordination and brain development
- All songs can be taught by rote and do not need to be displayed on a board at all

Contact us!

Director of MusicShare: Mrs Cathy Lamb - musicshare@lichfieldcathedralschool.com

The Music Partnership (Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent and Telford & Wrekin) – c/o - musicservice@entrust-ed.co.uk

And finally... Please spread the word about our fabulous extra-curricular choirs to your students (see poster below) and stay safe and take care!

The MusicShare Team

We are exploring options for live and digital sessions for all of our groups to resume in early October - please get in touch to register your interest!

Mini Voices

0-5 year olds
with their carers

Monday mornings

Sing - Learn - Play

Young Voices

6-11 year olds

Monday after school

music

£40 per
term

join our
choirs

SHARE

Youth Voices

12-18 year olds

Monday evenings

Ladies who Lark

Adult ladies

Monday late morning/early
afternoon

Contact musicshare@lichfieldcathedralschool.com
for more information!