

Etiquette

We're all here to learn songs and sing them to the best of our ability in a fun, creative and friendly atmosphere. This implies a certain amount of gentle discipline, respect and politeness. When you join a choir, you implicitly agree to:

1.	Listen to the musical director and take their instructions on board.
2.	Accept personal responsibility to learn your part and be attentive during rehearsals.
3.	Be helpful and supportive of all choir members and the volunteer committee members. Do not upset, offend or exploit any other choir members.
4.	Remember that in a choir music-making is a team effort.
5.	Find an appropriate time to ask questions about the piece you're learning. Try not to interrupt others. Raise your hand before speaking up.
6.	<p>Be quiet and do not talk while others are learning. Waiting for another section to learn their part gives you an opportunity to learn and cement what you know already. By doing this, you can be one step ahead of the game. You can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go over the words as the others are singing;• Sing your own part in your head to practise it and feel how the harmonies work;• Pay attention to what the choir leader is saying to the other section in terms of dynamics, speed, etc.;• Develop a clear sense of the structure of the song;• Learn the other parts too. <p>It's very easy when you're focused on your own part to forget the other singers in the choir especially when you're excited by a new song or have a question for another person in your section or want to try out some pronunciation. It's all too easy to forget that any low chatting gets multiplied if everyone in your section is doing it and it can often be a distraction for the other singers who are learning their part. Please remember that when other sections are learning their part. 'Do as you would be done by' - please keep quiet!</p>
7.	<p>Performance etiquette:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep your eyes on the MD - they will bring you in and tell you when to stop;• When you have finished singing a piece of music, please wait for the accompanist to finish before turning pages. It's rude to rustle!;• Don't drop any booklets to the floor - keep them in your folder;• Be as discreet as possible when taking sips of water. Keep your water bottle out of sight, if possible;• After a rehearsal take your folder and water bottle with you so the stage looks uncluttered. You can bring them back in for the concert.

We hope you enjoy your time with the choir and do not experience any problems but, if you do, please raise any concerns in the first instance with the chair, secretary or another member of the choir committee whose names and functions can be found on the committee page.