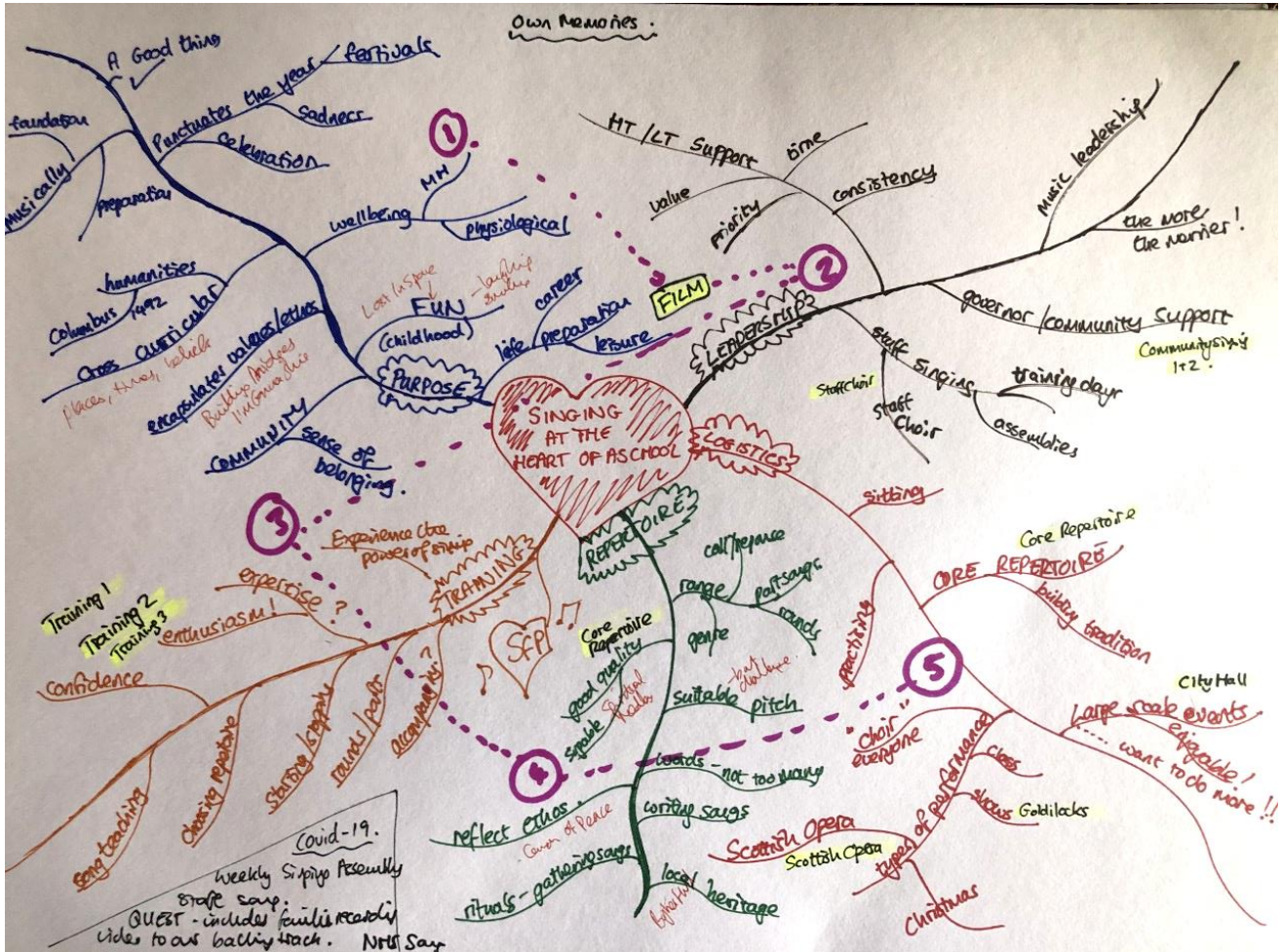


## The Singing School Webinar



Singing in School video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ctEoDQ4faw>



Link to our weekly singing assemblies during lockdown:

<https://www.hotspurprimary.co.uk/closure-time/weekly-singing>

Hotspur staff singing the Hotspur Song:

<https://youtu.be/sSxpfIQjPQ>

Link to short video of the Concordia Vocal Project funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6ZiZhfo4Jl>

I have been giving further thought to the question about everyone being in the choir and how that sits with developing a good choral sound:

What we are trying to do is build a singing culture for everyone rather than a pure choral tradition. Part of the role of primary education is to give children a range of opportunities so they can find out what they are good and what they enjoy. This may be at the expense of choral excellence – however our children are only 11 when they leave us and have plenty of opportunity for further refinement. Some of our children sing with the Opera North Newcastle Children’s Choir or the cathedral choir where they will get a more specialist provision. I want all children to feel they are a singer as it is so central to the life of school. We meet so many adults who have considerable reservations about singing as they were told at school to mime – I don’t want to add to that. Singing, at all levels, can be a fantastic recreational activity that sustains and nourishes people throughout their lives and I want all children to leave us knowing that they can be part of that.

At times we may offer a particular project for children to opt into and indicate that it is going to be more serious or need lots of rehearsal. At Christmas the descant group knows they’re going to have to sing high for example. I don’t want a child to feel they didn’t get into the choir in Y4 so are not a singer – or that there is a group of children that are the ‘special singers’. Some children will take on solo parts in shows or operas during their time in school – so there are chances to show individual expertise.



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Many children will continue to sing after they have left us – in all sorts of contexts. Our former music leader left last summer after 28 years in school and a band made up of Y6s from 2011 played at her leaving party. A former pupil, has just been signed by Virgin and released his first single to great acclaim – he can be seen in the film [Andrew Cushin: Back to School](#) coming back to Hotspur and singing his own songs for children. Another has just finished touring the US with Sting in his musical The Last Ship.

My vision is that what we do opens many doors rather than closing them.

Hotspur Primary School  
Core Repertoire  
Updated 17/10/2019

1	Autumn Days	
2	Bella Mama	
3	Building Bridges	
4	Byker Hill	
5	Canon of Peace	
6	Conservation Round	
7	Every Colour Under the Sun	
8	Forth Bridge	
9	Freedom Train	
10	Good To Be Me	
11	Hotspur Song	
12	I Love the Flowers	
13	I'm Gonna Shine	
14	Keel Row	
15	Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream	
16	Lost in Space	
17	Ma Ya Feh	
18	My Song is a Good Song	
19	One World	
20	Ouseburn Song	
21	Refuge	
22	Sailing	
23	Senwa Dedende	
24	Spiritual Medley	
25	Streets of London	
26	Take Me Up The Tyne	
27	Three Native American Chants	
28	Zum Gali Gali	

Miles Wallis-Clarke May 2020



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