

Conductor Training Programme

Level One: Consolidating

Sing for Pleasure provides training which is accessible, flexible and applicable to all settings. This is focussed on the development of well-rounded and adaptable musical leaders across four key areas of learning: Planning and Preparation, Teaching, Gesture, and Leadership. These run through each level, building upon one another to provide a holistic training programme for conductors.

Who is this course for?

This course is for those seeking to consolidate and build upon skills and techniques learnt on the Essentials course, allowing them to embed the fundamental Sing for Pleasure principles into their practice and become a clear and motivating conductor/vocal leader.

What skills do I need to have for this course?

Having completed the Essentials course, you will already have established the following core skills and an understanding of:

- the importance of good preparation and planning
- the role of efficient rehearsal strategies
- the use of simple, clear and economical conducting gestures
- the value of good leadership

What does this course aim to do?

On this course you will focus on the following:

- effective preparation, planning and rehearsal techniques through simple repertoire
- the use of simple gestures and well-structured teaching
- use and practice of fundamental and economical conducting gestures to manage and lead music effectively
- positive leadership traits to be a motivating and clear musical leader

What skills and experience will I gain?

Participants will have the chance to strengthen and refine their skills, including:

- how to prepare a score effectively considering musical detail, gesture and teaching strategies
- how to lead well-paced, structured rehearsals
- how to listen critically and provide clear and constructive feedback to the singers
- core conducting gestures, including beat patterns, starts/stops, and tempo and dynamic control
- podium time to develop as a motivating and clear musical leader

Course Delivery

Level One courses take place at Weekends, 4-Day courses and at Summer School. The course consists of technique sessions and workshops, much like other Sing for Pleasure events.

Repertoire

The repertoire here is intentionally simple to help participants become a clear and motivating leader. It allows them to concentrate on refining their teaching and conducting skills without the distraction of complex music. This focus supports building confidence and competence across all four core aspects of conducting, making it valuable for conductors at all levels, including those with more advanced musical experience.

What's next?

After completing a Level One course, participants will either, in consultation with their tutor, further consolidate at this level or progress to Level Two. As with all levels, there is flexibility, and each stage holds intrinsic value in supporting a conductor's growth and confidence.