

Conductor Training Programme

Level Two: Developing

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?

For those who have received a Level Two recommendation. This course is for those who have demonstrated confidence and fluency with core SfP methodology, allowing them to foster greater confidence and self-sufficiency by broadening gestural repertoire and musical leadership skills.

What skills do I need to have for this course?

Participants should be able to:

- prepare with musical accuracy and plan rehearsals with an understanding of pace and efficient use of time
- demonstrate efficient teaching supported through use of gesture
- integrate the use of a clear range of simple, clear and economical conducting gestures
- lead sessions in a positive and welcoming manner with clarity and warmth

What does this course aim to do?

On this course you will focus on the following:

- planning, preparation and the ability to adapt and adjust rehearsal technique
- the ability to listen and analyse the learning in the room and respond accordingly
- fluency of hand independence and expressive gesture to shape the choral sound
- exploring ways to support the choir and respond to their needs

What skills and experience will I gain?

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

- how to prepare scores in detail to provide well structured, organised rehearsals
- choir training techniques to build accuracy, secure intonation and a confident sound
- using gesture expressively in order to reflect musical mood
- expanding the use of the non-dominant hand in order to aid expression
- time to develop as a supportive and expressive conductor

Course Delivery

Level Two 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 courses.

Repertoire

At Level Two, the focus is on a broader and slightly more complex choral repertoire, enabling participants to become supportive and expressive conductors. While some of the repertoire comes from *Sing for Pleasure* publications, it also incorporates a wider range of music suited to school, community, and other choir settings. This varied selection offers rewarding challenge that participants will be ready to handle, helping to elevate their conducting skills. (may include accompanied and a capella, could include work with an accompanist).

What's next?

After completing a Level Two course, participants will either, in consultation with their tutor, consolidate at this level to support their development, or progress to Level Three. As with all levels, there is flexibility, and each stage offers valuable opportunities for growth in its own right.