



WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

CHOIRS SYLLABUS

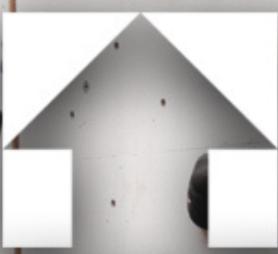


75TH ANNIVERSARY
2026

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CHOIRS Syllabus

We welcome all choirs of any age, ability or experience to come and take part in WCAF, singing any style of music. There are both non-competitive and competitive performance opportunities. The choral sections take place on Saturday 7th March 2026. There will also be the opportunity for one of our adjudicators to visit local schools to hear your performances if it is not possible to attend the festival. Please email: admin@wcaf.org.uk for further details.

****ENTRY FOR ALL CHOIRS IS COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE IF ENTERED BEFORE 1st DECEMBER 2025!**** 25% 'early bird' discount is also available on all other entries until 1st December 2025. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss any free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Up to 2 contrasting pieces should be performed within the time limit for the class (including the introduction and breaks between pieces). Different pieces must be played or performed for each entry in this section. Performances in these classes may be accompanied. If you choose to use a backing track rather than a live accompanist, the backing track must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Any backing track must not contain vocals and should be purely instrumental. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Categories in the choral sections this year:

Large choirs

Small choirs

Non-competitive choirs

We are pleased to announce that in addition to the trophies for winning an individual class, three Worcestershire Choir of the Year trophies will be available this year. There will be three categories - Junior (any choir in categories 1300, 1301, 1302, 1308, 1308, 1310 or 1316), Senior (any choir in categories 1303, 1304, 1305, 1311, 1312, 1313 or 1317) and Adult (1306, 1307, 1314, 1315 or 1318). The award will be made at the adjudicator's discretion. Each trophy will be accompanied by a prize of £50. Trophy winners must get a distinction or honours mark and will be invited to sing at the Festival Concert on Saturday 21st March 2026.

Ensembles made up of exactly the same performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and/or the open class in this section. Please ensure that the age of the eldest performer on 1st September 2025 is given in all except Open Adult classes. Conductors of any age are permitted.

Ensembles entering the Open Adult classes may include performers under the age of 18 but the majority of performers must be over 18. This will enable classes to be split fairly if there are too many entries. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one ensemble. Ensembles may also wish to enter the small or large ensemble classes, found in the general classes section.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AGES STATED ARE ON THE 1st SEPTEMBER 2025, TO ALIGN WITH THE ACADEMIC YEAR. Previous entrants may notice that the age groups have been recently updated across WCAF to align with school years. The ages are also included but please be aware this refers to the age of the individual on 1st September 2025. Please ensure that the number of singers and the minimum and maximum ages of singers in your choir are given (if applicable) when making the entry. If a large number of entries is received this information will enable classes to be split as fairly as possible, by size of the choir and/or by age. If you have any queries at all about your choir entry, please do not hesitate to drop us a line: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Worcestershire Choir of the Year

Up to 2 contrasting pieces (own choice) should be performed within the time limit for the class (including the introduction and breaks between pieces). Choirs may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the choir on 1st September 2025 and/or the open class in this section. Different pieces must be played or performed for each entry in the choir section. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one choir. The age groups are approximate and an indication of school years is given. The maximum number of singers performing in each choir cannot be exceeded.

Performances in these classes may, but do not have to be accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is always preferred. If you choose to use a backing track, it must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Any backing track must not contain vocals. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC) but please ensure entries are updated with the name and composer of the piece by 16th January 2026 at the latest.

Large Choirs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1300 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 2 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
1301 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 4 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1302 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1303 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 8 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	12 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1304 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 11 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1305 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 13 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1306 OPEN CLASS FOR LARGE CHOIRS Group of a minimum of 15 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
1307 OPEN CLASS FOR LARGE CHOIRS - Adult Group of a minimum of 15 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Small Choirs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1308 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 2 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
1309 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 4 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1310 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 6 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1311 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 8 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	12 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1312 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 11 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1313 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 13 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1314 OPEN CLASS FOR SMALL CHOIRS Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
1315 OPEN CLASS FOR SMALL CHOIRS - Adult Group of 3 to 15 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Non-competitive Choirs

Up to 2 contrasting pieces (own choice) should be performed within the time limit for the class (including the introduction and breaks between pieces). Different pieces must be played or performed for each entry in the choir section. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one choir. The age groups are approximate and an indication of school years is given.

Choirs may also wish to enter the competitive choir classes.

Performances in these classes may, but do not have to be, accompanied and 'live' accompaniment is always preferred. If you choose to use a backing track it must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2026. Any backing track must not contain vocals. Please note the additional information as you make the entry.

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC) but please ensure entries are updated with the name and composer of the piece by 16th January 2026 at the latest.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1316 NON-COMPETITIVE CHOIRS - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1317 NON-COMPETITIVE CHOIRS - School year 13 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1318 NON-COMPETITIVE CHOIRS - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
1319 WCAF DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CLASS FOR CHOIRS Award: WCAF DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CLASS Help us to celebrate our 75th Anniversary! Sing any song with 'Diamond' in the title or any song published in 1951 or any song by any artist born in 1951. You could even play a piece by Neil Diamond! Get imaginative, join in and have fun. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any queries or aren't sure what to perform! We will aim to schedule these performances at a similar time to any other choir classes you are entering. You may also be invited to sing again at our 75th birthday party on Saturday 21st March. Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group