

Other *abcd* Courses

Leading the Singing/Foundation

These courses are designed to lay firm foundations for anyone who has an interest in learning to lead singing of any kind, or who has recently started to conduct a choir.

Emerging

This brand-new course is designed for those who already have some experience in singing and/or conducting and will develop existing skills, enabling participants to prepare their choirs with greater confidence.

Progressive

This course is designed for those who work with a choir on a regular basis and wish to develop the technique they already have. There is also the option to take the DipABRSM exam at the end of the course for an additional cost, which can be discussed with tutors during the course.

Advanced

This course is designed for those who conduct their own choir regularly, to a high standard, and have successfully taken the Intermediate or Progressive Course, DipABRSM or have the equivalent training and/or experience. This course can lead to the Licentiate or Fellowship of the Royal Schools of Music examination for those students who wish to take it. This can be discussed with course tutors during the course.

For more information about our courses and other events, visit www.abcd.org.uk/training




About us

The Association of British Choral Directors (*abcd*) is the only UK organisation which is devoted entirely to supporting those leading choral music, both amateur and professional. We are committed to promoting, improving and maintaining opportunities for the professional development of all those leading singing of any kind, whether in the classroom or in the community. Our 800+ members represent over 2000 choral groups and include teachers, composers, singers and students, leading singing of all kinds.

abcd has a long track record of working with schools, teachers and students of all ages. As a Sing Up Flagship organisation working with the Music Manifesto National Singing Programme, we ran our *Leading from the Front* projects for Sing Up in Lancashire, Essex, Cornwall and Warwickshire, working with hundreds of teachers and thousands of students. Since then we have continued to work with teachers and many others leading young singers throughout the UK to improve their confidence, technical skills and repertoire knowledge.

Find us on social media

 @abcdtweets

 www.facebook.com/groups/abcdchoral

www.abcd.org.uk

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Get them singing, keep them singing

Leading singing in schools



Photo ©Lancashire Telegraph

abcd has recognised an ever-growing need for good quality vocal leadership training in schools and has developed a flexible range of courses for all those involved in leading young singers.

Our courses are aimed at enhancing the skills and confidence of all those leading singing in schools who wish to develop their knowledge, regardless of their experience, offering relevant Continuing Professional Development. Our training is non-prescriptive in approach with the emphasis on a supportive and encouraging environment.

We have a team of specialists who will share their vocal knowledge, music teaching skills and choral leadership expertise. All our practitioners are DBS checked.

Courses can be offered in partnership with local Music Hubs, Music Service providers, Academy Trusts, or through a single school or group of schools: do contact us to discuss your own needs.

Our tailor-made programme

We aim to be as flexible as possible to cater to the needs of individuals. We encourage teachers to develop their confidence, knowledge and skills through practical workshops including vocal technique and choral repertoire, and to share this with each other and their colleagues in the wider school community. There are three broad categories:

Leading Singing in Secondary Schools

For teachers who wish to develop their knowledge of leading singing for young and changing voices. Suitable for:

- Secondary School teachers
- Music Hubs
- Student teachers (PGCE and SCIT)
- Upper KS2 Primary teachers responsible for leading singing/music co-ordinators

Leading Singing in Primary Schools

For teachers who wish to develop their knowledge of leading singing for young voices. Suitable for:

- Primary School teachers who would like to find out more about leading singing
- Primary School music co-ordinators
- Music Hubs
- Student teachers (PGCE and SCIT)
- Teaching Assistants

Encouraging Young Vocal Leaders

For young people in Years 10 - 13 who have an interest in leading singing. Suitable for:

- Young people studying GCSE Music
- Young people studying at A-Level (preferably but not necessarily music)
- Home-schooled young people between the ages of 14-18

Contact us for more details about each course



How long is each course?

We recommend that each course is run as a 3-day course, though there are options to reduce it to 1 or 2 days if required. These can be spread out over a period of months and held at times to suit the individual group, including Saturdays or twilights.

How many people are on each course?

We recommend a minimum of 10 participants, and a maximum of 17.

What will I learn on the course?

Skills will be tailored to each group as required. The Primary and Secondary courses cover the following topics:

- Vocal health, development and awareness
- Repertoire
- Ensemble singing in the classroom
- The teacher as a singing leader/conductor
- Establishing, developing and maintaining vocal ensembles

Encouraging Young Vocal Leaders participants will learn about the following:

- Basic singing leadership skills
- Vocal health development and awareness
- Rehearsal technique
- Repertoire

What does *abcd* provide?

We will provide a tutor and accompanist for each day, and all the necessary repertoire. For all courses, costs may be reduced if an accompanist and/or repertoire can be provided by the Hub or other host group.

How much do the courses cost?

Costs vary depending on the length of course. The Primary and Secondary leadership courses cost approximately £225 per teacher, though this can be negotiable (see above). We currently have funding to subsidise the Encouraging Young Vocal Leaders, and we ask schools/Hubs to match this funding – exact amounts will vary.

Who do I contact for more information?

Call or email our Training Manager, Penny Homer on 07805 454563 or penny.homer@abcd.org.uk to discuss your specific training needs.

If you are a teacher, you may want to contact your local Music Hub or Music Service to see about forming a consortium of teachers.

- *'Feel like we are really starting to raise the profile (coolness!) of singing in the school! Thanks for all your help and support – can't wait for next CPD day – more fantastic ideas.'*
- *'The Deputy Head and TA's have said that the children are more excited to learn. They are much more focused and tuneful. The behaviour has also improved as a result.'*
- *'I've stood at the front rather than hiding behind the piano'*
- *'I thoroughly enjoyed every part and found it to be a rocket to my development.'*