

Why Set Up A Whole Year Choir?

- Possible aims and purposes of whole-year choirs, both in a wider school context and at KS3 music
- How you can timetable these into a school day and what support you might need
- How to manage the behaviour of large groups, and organise rehearsals in the lead up to a performance)
- Sharing engaging vocal warm-ups and repertoire

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- ★5.05 - intro and warm up
- ★5.15 - presentation by Hackney New School
- ★5.35 - presentation by Aleks Zembron
- ★Other presentations
- ★6.00 - small group discussion on theme
- ★6.25 - feedback
- ★6.30 - wine and networking!

Year 7 Choir:



What our students say . . .

I liked it - the warm ups. It's "together" and entertaining (Year 10)

Fun, because you get to express your feelings (Year 8)

It's a bit tiring, and could be before home time; everyone would be more energetic (Year 9)

It builds students' confidence, because we're singing in front of different people (Year 7)

Aim of a whole year choir?



A showcase ensemble for the school?

A celebration of collective singing?

Working towards a performance?

Developing singing ability?

Year Choirs at Hackney New School



Year 7, 8 and 9

20 minutes, weekly, at the start of assembly

Form teachers and member of SLT present: clear role and responsibility

Music teachers co-direct ideally

Convincing your SLT



Make it easy for them - is there a timetabled slot that you can use part of?

What will be the benefit of this for the whole school?

What are the students working towards?

How will it link into your KS3 curriculum/build numbers at KS4?

HNS music teachers - Alec Haylor and Clare Reavey



Repertoire choice

Six singing secrets + moving to the music

Creating a fun atmosphere where they can take risks

Bringing key students out to the front (role models)

Student band

More ideas



Form teachers' role and responsibility

Seating plans

'Top Ten Choir Triers'

Pacey and well structured

Using competition between forms to encourage participation

Group Discussions

1. What should the aim of a whole year choir be?
2. How could you timetable one in, and convince your SLT that it's a brilliant idea?
3. How could you manage the behaviour of 100+ students?

ALL to share a vocal warm up/activity with us!

Stay in touch!



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