

## Do you class yourself as a singing school?

- ✚ Do you often find yourself saying to parents, governors etc. that you do lots of singing and that you are a strong school in this area?
- ✚ Do you know how your school compares to others in terms of your commitment to singing?

Maybe this following checklist will help to give you a benchmark baseline with which to start from ...

### Definition of a **basic** 'singing school', as agreed by Sing Up/DFE (nee DCSF) 2007

A 'singing school' is one in which: -

- ✓ All pupils sing for at least 5 minutes every day.
- ✓ The whole school sings together at least once a week.
- ✓ Singing regularly takes place in and outside the classroom.
- ✓ At least 2 people in every primary school are confident to lead singing throughout the school.
- ✓ Pupils sing in performances periodically (internal or external audiences and recordings), and at least once a year.
- ✓ The school recognises the value of singing across the curriculum.
- ✓ The headteacher, governors and staff are supportive of singing

## How might I improve what's on offer to our pupils at my school?

Below is a list of singing activities that apply well to the following age groups and could take you beyond being a basic singing school to one that really puts singing at the heart of your school community.

### Early Years setting

Universal access

- ✚ Playground singing
- ✚ Whole-school/assembly singing
- ✚ Classroom/curriculum singing

Focused singing activity

- ✚ Breakfast clubs
- ✚ Class-led assemblies
- ✚ Festivals/fetes, etc.

### Primary School

Universal access

- ✚ Playground singing
- ✚ Whole-school/assembly singing
- ✚ Classroom/curriculum singing

Focused singing activity

- ✚ Breakfast clubs
- ✚ Class-led assemblies
- ✚ Choirs
- ✚ Festivals, events, etc.
- ✚ Music theatre

Progression

### Secondary School

Universal access

- ✚ Assemblies?
- ✚ Curriculum music (KS3)

Focused singing activity

- ✚ Choirs
- ✚ Vocal groups
- ✚ Big Sings
- ✚ Festivals, events, etc.
- ✚ Workshops
- ✚ Music theatre/shows
- ✚ Attending vocal/choral concerts

Progression

- ✚ Curriculum music (KS4)
- ✚ Awards/qualifications
- ✚ Individual/small group tuition
- ✚ Area choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ Regional choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ National choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ Young singing leaders

### Sixth Form setting

Focused singing activity

- ✚ Choirs
- ✚ Vocal groups
- ✚ Big Sings
- ✚ Festivals, events, etc.
- ✚ Workshops
- ✚ Music theatre/shows
- ✚ Attending vocal/choral concerts

Progression

- ✚ Curriculum music
- ✚ Awards/qualifications
- ✚ Individual/small group tuition
- ✚ Area choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ Regional choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ National choirs/vocal groups
- ✚ Young singing leaders
- ✚ Choral/vocal group leadership
- ✚ Adult choir