



## **St Catharine's Catholic Primary School: Singing Strategy 2026/2027**

**Aim:** to have as many children as possible, singing as often as possible.

Our school has a rich tradition of music-making with children, both within curriculum lessons and within the wider school ethos. This strategy outlines how singing in particular is taught at St Catharine's Catholic Primary School. It should be read alongside our school's Music protocol and music development plan.

### **Singing Assembly**

Each week, pupils and staff participate in specialist singing assemblies led by professionals, such as Richard Norris from Longborough Festival Opera. These sessions go beyond the core curriculum, offering pupils an enriching experience in vocal training and performance. This collaboration not only enhances their musical skills but also fosters a deeper appreciation for singing. Through these assemblies, pupils and staff gain confidence, creativity, and a unique opportunity to engage with the arts in a way that extends their learning and personal development beyond standard classroom activities. In addition to these assemblies, we learn and sing a range of both traditional and contemporary religious songs.

### **School Productions**

Children have many opportunities to perform at St Catharine's, and these performances often include music and singing. Reception and KS1 perform a Nativity play each Christmas while Year 6 put on an end-of-year production. Classes also lead liturgies, which can include songs. These performances give our children the memorable experience of singing in a real performance in front of a large audience.

### **Classroom Singing**

We have a wide range of resources in school from our Charanga music scheme. There is a song centre available within the teaching resource bank that is separate from the scheme of work. The song centre has hundreds of songs to enjoy with pupils and singing courses for younger children. Teachers often make singing part of every music lesson and use singing as part of cross-curricular teaching as well.

### **Collective Worship and Church Services**

Singing is part of most acts of Collective Worship and features in several assemblies each week. Children sing in church during Mass, and our choristers help to lead the singing. Children also sing at other whole-school events, including Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter services, and the Leavers' Service.

### **Singing in the Community**

The school also engages with singing at local community events. This includes singing at the town Christmas market, open-air carol services and visits to local care homes, as well as community events such as Scuttle Brook.

**Progression and feedback**

Children receive feedback from teachers about their singing, which supports progression. As their confidence grows, children are challenged to extend songs they have learnt, for example by singing in a round or in two parts.

**Children and staff recognition of singing**

We encourage children and staff to recognise that singing is enjoyable, but that it also brings an element of challenge.

**We aim for singing across the school to be both challenging and engaging.**