

THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY

INFORMATION SHEET FOR WAKEHAM CHORISTERS



1. ATTENDANCE

The times and days of attendance for boys in Year 6 are as follows:

- a) **From 3:35 pm to 4.35 pm on Wednesdays:**
Rehearsal at St Olave's with Mr Price (Director of Music at St Olave's)
- b) **From 4.10 pm to 5.15 pm (latest) on Fridays:**
Rehearsal at St Olave's with Mr Berg (Master of the Music at The Queen's Chapel)
- c) **From 9.20 am to circa 12.15 pm on Sundays** at The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy:
Rehearsal from 9:45 am to 10:30 am with the Gentlemen of the Choir; and a half-hour break before the service

(NB: when boys start in Year 7 at St Olave's there is an additional rehearsal at St Olave's with Mr Price from 8.30 am to 8.55 am on Fridays.)

We need prospective Wakeham Choristers to be prepared and able to fully commit to the attendances outlined above, as consistency of attendance is essential.

There are also services on **Christmas Day** (morning) and **Good Friday** (morning).

The record of attendance is high, and needs to be, since the Choir is quite small.

2. TRAVEL TO THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL

It may be possible to organise sharing journeys to the Chapel with other choristers and their parents/carers. Parents/carers will be put in touch with each other by email for this purpose.

3. HOLIDAYS

There are no services in August and September and the Choristers are also given holidays on the Sundays after Christmas and Easter, the last one or two Sundays in July and the first Sunday of each Half Term.

4. FEES

At Christmas, Easter and the last attendance in July, each Wakeham Chorister receives a cheque. The amount varies according to his position in the Choir. A complete year's payment last year was about £360 for a head chorister and about £220 for a boy in Year 6 with good attendance. Since we require regular attendance this is reflected in the fees.

A chorister is expected to remain in the Choir until his voice breaks, and beyond if he can control it! We hope that in most cases this would amount to about four years.

5. EXPENSES

A payment is made at the end of each month to repay the cost of train fares. This is normally given to each Wakeham Chorister in cash, but a different arrangement can be made if required.

6. CAROL SERVICES

At the end of the Autumn Term there are four private Carol Services on weekday evenings and one at lunch time. The Year 6 Wakeham Choristers are usually asked to sing at two or three of these, including one followed by a buffet lunch. They receive a payment for these services, and for any other extra services.

7. WEDDINGS

Occasionally there are weddings on Saturdays, in which case the Friday rehearsal is transferred to the same day (before the wedding). A fee is paid (at the end of term).

8. DRESS CODE

Wakeham Choristers must wear school uniform (including black shoes) to all services. This is not necessary for rehearsals which take place in the school holidays. Boys in Year 6 who do not have a school uniform are asked to wear a collar and tie and black shoes to all services.

9. COMMUNICATION

Please keep Mr Berg/Mr Price informed of any absences (in plenty of time if they are planned) by email or telephone. Obviously we want every chorister to enjoy his time in the Choir, and we would be grateful if you would keep us informed of any matters which cause concern.