

Tips for your choir audition:

- Ensure you choose an audition song that best displays the beauty of your choir i.e. Sing a ballad
- Simple repertoire performed beautifully is better than difficult repertoire performed poorly
- While multi-part repertoire is encouraged, your choir's unison blend is the most important factor
- Choirs should sing with energy but should never yell; lost voices (droners) will disadvantage your choir
- Treble choirs should be encourage to use a clear, well-supported head-voice (without sounding breathy)
- Vowels should be uniform and round – opening the mouth and dropping the jaw in a relaxed, comfortable way will create a full, mature sound
- Use THIS year's ensemble to audition on behalf of next year's performing ensemble (contact Ian Jefferson for clarification)

Each choir is evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Blend
2. Tone
3. Phrasing
4. Pitch
5. Rhythm
6. Dynamics
7. Harmony
8. Lyrics (clarity)
9. Song Choice (appropriate?)
10. Discipline

For the actual recording:

- To improve the ensemble's pitch make sure they can hear the accompaniment - turn speakers towards the choir if necessary and...
- ... make sure the accompaniment doesn't overwhelm the sound of the choir (on your recording)
- Camera should be placed on a fixed tripod showing the entire choir (Single shot, no panning or zooming)
- It doesn't matter if we see the conductor or not (unless you'd like the panel to observe your technique!)
- There should be no pre-recorded vocals on the accompaniment track
- Movement/chorography is not required on the audition