

# Southend Boys' Choir

Always welcomes new members...



IS THIS YOU? .....

Southend Boys' Choir (SBC) is the best known Boys' Choir in the country and is internationally famous, performing regularly to audiences of thousands, in concerts such as the BBC Proms, TV and radio broadcasts and recordings.

Since the Choir was founded 1970, countless boys have had amazing opportunities to perform with many of the world's finest musicians.

SBC appears regularly with orchestras such as:  
London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Philharmonia, BBC Symphony, City of London Sinfonia, London Festival Chorus, National Symphony Orchestra, and many others.

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SBC tours abroad regularly and has performed with the world's great orchestras and conductors.

Boys are chosen from Southend and South Essex, and can join at any time between the ages of 8 and 17. There is one practice per week during term time, at Westcliff High School for Boys, after school on Fridays.

Timing: 4pm - 5.15pm for treble voices  
4.45pm - 5.45pm for older voices

## What's required ....

an enjoyment of music;  
an ability to sing in tune;  
a lively attitude, enthusiasm, commitment and discipline;  
to attend a short, informal audition to sing a short song or hymn of the boy's choice and have a few simple ear tests. Nothing to be afraid of.

*you do not need to be able to read music.*

## When you join ....

Parents are asked to support their sons, to give them every encouragement. The SBC rules are vital and are behind the Choir's continued success and reputation. Normally boys are accepted for a six-month trial period (on both sides). At the end of that time boys who are accepted for membership, and their parents, must make the following promises:

- ♫ To attend rehearsal regularly each week during term time unless prevented by illness.
- ♫ To remain as a member of the Choir until he can no longer sing treble or alto parts, or until he leaves school or the area.

Many boys remain in the Choir until they leave secondary school; in the latter years they gain enormous benefit. They can also move on to join the newly acclaimed Southend Young Men's Chorus.

Numerous SBC boys have gone on to become professional musicians.

## What does it cost? ....

There is no membership or joining fee. The boys' travel to concerts is, in the main, paid by the Choir and the Orchestras with whom we work. Parents are asked simply to provide packed food, water, and a little pocket money if required.

In exceptional circumstances parents may be asked to contribute a nominal amount to help with expenses.

## What's the Uniform? ....

Concert uniform is supplied by the Choir (blue tie, blue band, Choir Badge) at a cost of £8. For concerts parents are asked to provide the boys with a long sleeved white shirt, dark grey / black trousers, and black shoes with dark socks. Occasionally, and on tour, the Choir are provided with special event t-shirts, like BBC Proms in red, Children in Need in black and Beowulf in emerald green.

## What's next? .....

Boys wishing to apply should consider these membership rules carefully. If you're in agreement fill in and return the membership application form signed by yourself and your parents / carers. You will be contacted in due course. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me on 01702 215623 or 07771 600009 or by email at [rogerhumphrey@southend.gov.uk](mailto:rogerhumphrey@southend.gov.uk).

Roger Humphrey  
MUSICAL DIRECTOR

[www.southendchoirs.org.uk](http://www.southendchoirs.org.uk)



Southend Boys' Choir is on Facebook



# APPLICATION FORM



Southend Boys' Choir always welcomes new members.

If you'd like to apply for membership, please complete this form and email it to:

rogerhumphrey@southend.gov.uk

Roger Humphrey

Director—The Southend Boys' Choir

You'll be contacted shortly and invited to come for an audition. This will test your ability to sing in tune, and do one or two simple ear tests. Details will be sent with your audition invitation.

I would like to apply for membership of The Southend Boys' Choir.

**(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)**

APPLICANT NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

HOME 'PHONE NUMBER: .....

APPLICANT'S AGE: .....

DATE OF BIRTH: .....

SCHOOL ATTENDED AT PRESENT: .....

ALLERGIES / OTHER KNOWN MEDICAL CONDITIONS (EG ASTHMA): .....

PARENT/GUARDIAN: NAME: .....

DAYTIME NUMBER: .....

MOBILE: .....

EMAIL ADDRESS: .....

ALTERNATIVE EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & NUMBER: .....

**Note:** Photos and filming of SBC may be taken and used for publicity purposes. If you DO NOT want your son to be included, please tick here:  NB: Names will not be published.

I have read the attached letter and will, if I am accepted for membership, obey the rules of The Southend Boys' Choir.

**SIGNED:** (boy's signature)

I agree to my son's application for membership of The Southend Boys' Choir, and agree to the conditions of membership as set out in the letter.

**SIGNED:** (parent/guardian)



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[www.southendchoirs.org.uk](http://www.southendchoirs.org.uk)



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