



**The Cathedral Church of St. Michael,
Coventry**

Chorister Voice Coach



The Cathedral

Coventry Cathedral is recognised internationally for its ministry of peace and reconciliation. The striking architecture of the new building sitting alongside the ruins of the bombed Cathedral provides a powerful symbol that is ever more relevant in our increasingly divided world. It is the spiritual home of a committed congregation of worshippers who, together with large numbers of visitors, pilgrims and tourists, enjoy the diversity of liturgy and music which comprises the worshipping life of the Cathedral.

The Way We Worship

Since 1962, Coventry has enjoyed a reputation for liturgical innovation. The Dean and Canons are committed to offering a home for the wide range of traditions found within Anglicanism. This commitment to respect for diversity is also a part of our worship. We seek to reflect the breadth of the Church of England, representing its varying traditions with integrity and style. As a consequence, Sunday worship at the Cathedral sees several hundred people across our acts of worship. The Cathedral Eucharist and Choral Evensong are formal in style (there is a more detailed description below).

The Primary Purpose

Our vision for the Cathedral includes making it a centre of musical excellence.

Coventry Cathedral Voice Coach



Salary:	£35 per hour
Reporting to:	Director of Music
Work base:	Coventry Cathedral
Start date:	March 2025
Application Deadline:	5pm on Friday 7 th February 2025
Audition/Interview:	Saturday 15 th February 2025
Date of Issue:	24 th January 2025

The Choirs

There are three choirs associated with the Cathedral:

The Cathedral Choir (three sections: Boy Choristers, Girl Choristers, Clerks & Scholars)

The Chamber Choir (adult mixed voices)

Coventry Cathedral Chorus (formerly Saint Michaels' Singers)

In term time, the Cathedral Choir sings on Sundays at the 10.30 a.m. Cathedral Eucharist and 4.00 p.m. Choral Evensong. Wednesday 5.15pm Evensong is sung by the Boy Choristers, and Thursdays by the Girl Choristers. Out of term time visiting choirs frequently sing on the weekends and occasionally Choral Evensong on Saturdays is sung by a visiting choir. As well as before each sung service the boys and girls rehearse twice a week, Clerks and Scholars once. The Chamber Choir rehearses and sings services twice or three times per term. The choirs sing at many special occasions and services, and tour periodically.

The Liturgical Department

The Liturgical Department of the Cathedral is headed up by the Canon for Worship and Welcome (Rev'd Nitano Muller) and includes the Head Verger (Dan Anderson) and his team, the Director of Music (Rachel Mahon) and the Assistant Director of Music (Luke Fitzgerald).

Main Duties and Responsibilities of the Voice Coach:

1. A total of twenty three-hour sessions per year. Hours spread across Tuesdays (c. 4-7pm) and Saturdays (c. 9-12am) to suit the schedule of the successful candidate.
2. Coaching boy and girl choristers (aged 7-18) individually or in small groups, working on vocal development and focusing on both solos and choral singing.
3. Supporting choristers in the preparation for services and performances.
4. Providing guidance in vocal health and technical singing skills.
5. To communicate with the Director of Music on the progress of the choristers.

Accountability & Supervision received:

The Voice Coach is accountable to the Canon for Worship and Welcome through the Director of Music. The Director of Music, or the Assistant Director of Music, will provide supervision.

Qualities and Experience Required:

1. A skilled vocal coach, with knowledge and experience in the training of children's voices.
2. Understanding of young people's voices and an ability to support children of any age as their voices develop.
3. Someone appreciative of the wide range in the musical styles that are a part of Cathedral worship.
4. A positive individual, able to enthuse and engage choristers.
5. Familiarity with Safeguarding guidelines and procedures is essential.
6. The position is subject to DBS clearance.

Qualities and Experience Desired:

1. Certified qualifications in vocal and/or musical tuition and performance, such as a Conservatoire Teaching Licentiate, Music Degree, or other relevant qualification.
2. Membership of professional bodies for singers, church musicians or teaching professionals.
3. Current engagement as a professional singer at a high level.
4. Basic keyboard skills appropriate to leading coaching sessions using a piano.

Application Documents Required:

6. A CV listing experience.
7. A covering letter giving your reasons for applying and your relevant skills and experience
8. Two referees whom the Cathedral may approach – one must be your current or most recent employer.
9. Send applications to:
 - iii. The Director of Music, Coventry Cathedral, 1 Hill Top, Coventry, West Midlands CV1 5AB
 - iv. Applications may be emailed by 5pm on 7th February to:
luke.fitzgerald@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Audition and Interview: to be held at Coventry Cathedral on Saturday 15 February.