



Singing Assembly for Year 7 and for Year 8

What is it?

Every week, Year 7 and Year 8 will participate in an assembly where they will unite through singing. Singing assemblies take place on Tuesdays for both Year 7 & year 8.

Assemblies will be led by Mr Rayner and Mr Rider.

Why are we doing this?

Since 1994, all schools have a duty to provide a daily act of collective worship. Alongside the opportunity to explore their own beliefs, collective worship should “encourage participation and response... through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit...”. Singing assemblies form part of our approach to Collective Worship.

Importantly, research has shown that things we do in larger groups are extremely good for social bonding and therefore forming friendships. Singing is one activity that triggers the endorphin system and, in a social context, aides community bonding. The research-backed benefits of singing are extensive, from calming the heart rate and boosting the immune system, to increasing positive mood and self-esteem.

You can explore the research here: <https://www.singingforhealthnetwork.co.uk/research-overview>

SHAPE

Students need to be taught how to speak in an impressive and articulate manner. The acronym SHAPE is used to reinforce students’ oracy skills at all times:

- Speak in full sentences
- Hands away from mouth
- Articulate – don't mumble
- Project – a loud, clear voice
- Eye contact

Use the singing assembly as an opportunity to reinforce this.

Which Songs?

The songs will be chosen by the Expressive Arts faculty. They will include fun/silly songs, and songs that reflect our school values or are tied to particular events. In the second half of the autumn term, the students will be practising hymns that will be sung at the church service at the end of term.