St Catharine’s Girls’ Choir Auditions
What to expect...

We know that the prospect of an audition can be scary, and we hope to make it as friendly and constructive as possible. Even if you are unsuccessful, the intention is that you have an experience which is encouraging and helpful; and we always provide you with feedback and advice afterwards.

The audition process will have two elements: a vocal audition with the Director of Music, Dr Edward Wickham; and with the choir’s vocal coach, Helen Groves. This will last approximately 15 minutes, and will be followed by an informal chat with the Dean of Chapel, the Rev’d Ally Barrett, lasting a further 10-15 minutes.

A parent can attend with the auditionee, though we ask them please to sit in the ante-chapel during the audition itself. During the audition, we may ask you ...

- to sing a prepared piece (please bring something which you are confident in singing; we prefer to hear Happy Birthday sung with gusto than a Mozart aria sung nervously).
- to sing some scales and other short exercises
- to pitch and sing back notes (to ‘la’) played on the piano, individually and in a chord
- memorise and clap rhythms; memorise and sing melodies

We can provide accompaniment on the piano if required. If you are singing from music, please bring two copies of the song you would like to sing.

Parents are invited to accompany their child to the meeting with the Dean of Chapel. This is a chance for us to get to know you better, and for you to ask us further questions. There are no tests involved, and no preparation required.