



ABINGDON

From: Richard Stafford: Director of Music

23 May 2024

Dear all,

From September, I am delighted to announce that the Joint Choral Society will be working towards a performance of Handel's 'Messiah' to take place on Sunday 1 December in the Amey Theatre. This will be formed of a choir consisting of both pupils from St Helen and St Katharine's and Abingdon School alongside staff and parents. I am therefore warmly inviting you to join us for this project if this is something you might be interested in. Whilst some singing experience is useful, there is no audition for this, just enthusiasm and a desire to be part of a large chorus performing one of the seminal works of classical music! It is expected that members of the chorus will be able to attend 80% of the rehearsals which will run only during term time. There will be a rehearsal in the early afternoon of Sunday 1 December in advance of the concert which will take place at 4pm.

Rehearsals will take place in the Charles Maude Room and will commence on Tuesday 10 September, running from 7-9pm. Within this time, there will be a break for light refreshments. There may be occasional sectional rehearsals but these will be detailed in advance of rehearsals. There is no cost for the rehearsals and the concert, however I would ask that you attend rehearsals with your own copy of the Watkins Shaw edition of the Messiah. A suitable place to purchase this if you don't have one is at the following website:

<https://www.rscmshop.com/books/E0019/handel-messiah-ed-shaw-vocal-score>

If you are interested, please do complete the google form below by Monday 1 July and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

<https://forms.gle/izfzXQK8L83BE4ht5>

I look forward to hopefully seeing many of you at the first rehearsal in September!

With best wishes

Richard Stafford
Director of Music

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: 01235 521563 Fax: 01235 849079

www.abingdon.org.uk