

Local children invited to take part in singing auditions to win a place in Ely Cathedral's prestigious choir.

Children aged 6-9 from across the region are being invited to audition for a place in the renowned Choir of Ely Cathedral. Auditions will take place on Saturday 28 February, offering young people with an interest in music the opportunity of a lifetime: to be part of one of the country's finest cathedral choirs while receiving a minimum of 40% fee reduction at one of the region's leading schools.

The Choir provides exceptional musical training, and the chance to be part of a centuries-old tradition in the magnificent surroundings of Ely Cathedral. Former choristers often go on to further musical success in all walks of life, carrying with them the confidence, discipline and friendships developed during their time in the Choir.

Edmund Aldhouse, Director of Music at Ely Cathedral, is encouraging families with children currently in Years 2 to 5 to come forward: "Joining a Cathedral Choir is a life-changing experience, with multiple benefits stretching way beyond childhood. As well as developing unrivalled musical skills, our choristers receive an outstanding all-round education in a supportive and welcoming environment. We are looking for potential, not perfection – the main thing is a love for music and a willingness to learn more."

Rosie Le Cheminant, whose son and daughter are both current members of the Cathedral Choir, has seen first-hand the positive impact of the experience: "My children were pupils at local primary schools. When they joined the Cathedral Choir, I was naturally concerned about how well they would settle in, but everyone was so welcoming and supportive. I've met so many lovely parents, and my children have made great friends — many from other regional schools. They are having the best experience and receiving an exceptional education. It is undoubtedly the best decision I could have made."

The Choir at Ely Cathedral boasts a rich musical heritage spanning more than 1,000 years, with roots tracing back to the 10th-century Benedictine monastery. Boy and girl choristers benefit from a first class education at Kings' Ely: the vast majority are day pupils but full and flexi-boarding options are available. All choristers are supported with a generous award of at least 40% fee remission, free singing and theory tuition, and opportunities to tour internationally and collaborate with world renowned composers and musicians.

The Chorister Auditions Day will be held on Saturday 28 February. Families can register via the Ely Cathedral website at:

<https://www.elycathedral.org/music/join-the-cathedral-choir>

To find out more, arrange a chat, or book an informal audition, please email music@elycathedral.org or call 01353 660336.

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