Derby Cathedral

Bass Lay Clerk Application Pack







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derbycathedral.org

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The Cathedral Choir

Over the past few years, **Derby Cathedral Choir** has built a national reputation for **excellence**, and within the East Midlands is one of the only professional ensembles of its kind. Comprising Boy and Girl Choristers, Junior Choral Scholars, and a team of Lay Clerks (adult professional singers), the Cathedral Choir sings at least **five choral services** each week on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Our Choristers are drawn from around 20 different schools across Derby and the surrounding area.

The Cathedral Choir has an extensive **repertoire** spanning from medieval plainsong to newly-commissioned works. On top of the singing of services, the Cathedral Choir regularly performs **concerts**, often in collaboration with Sinfonia Viva, the professional orchestra for the East Midlands. In recent years, we have also performed in concerts in partnership with **Gabrieli** and T**he Sixteen.** Broadcasts and tours are a regular part of the Cathedral Choir's schedule, with recent **tours** including Germany and London, where we sang at St Paul's Cathedral, Trinity College Cambridge and with the Chapel Royal Choir at Hampton Court Palace. We are also part of the East Midlands **Four Choirs' Festival**, singing Evensong annually with the choirs of Southwell Minster, Coventry Cathedral and Leicester Cathedral.



Music at Derby Cathedral

Derby Cathedral has one of the most **rapidly-expanding** Cathedral Music Departments in the UK. Alongside the Cathedral Choir, the Cathedral has a **Voluntary Choir** for adults who sing when the Cathedral Choir is not in residence and a **Junior Choir** for pre-chorister aged children. **Small Sounds**, our early years music group also meets every week.

Our **Music in Schools Programme** currently works with 1400 children in 25 schools each week, bringing children a **high-quality** music education through whole-class singing sessions, school choirs, and one-to-one **piano and organ tuition**. Our Music in Schools Programme has just launched a new choir, **Treble Makers**, at a church in our Diocese.

Lay Clerks

The successful candidate would sing Bass for Evensong at the Cathedral on Thursday Evenings (17:00-18:30), Sunday Evenings (16:15-18:15), and alternate Tuesday Evenings (17:00-18:15) during term time, plus a share of the special services/concerts as noted in the termly Diary and Music List. Lay Clerks are expected to prioritise the two Christmas Carol Services, Christmas Morning, Palm Sunday Evening, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Morning. Lay Clerks also have first refusal when deputies are sought for other Lay Clerk absences, and for Weddings/Funerals as they come in.

Lay Clerks are engaged on a **self-employed** basis and are paid by the service at the end of each month on receipt of an **invoice**.

Remuneration

Our current fees are:
£35.65 per **statutory** service (regular Evensong or Sunday Eucharist)
£78 per **special** service (Weddings, Funerals etc.)



Safeguarding

At Derby Cathedral we take safeguarding very seriously and it is **central** to Chapter's care for the life and work of the Cathedral. Safeguarding means the action we take to promote a **safe** and **healthy culture** for everyone connected to the Cathedral. The Cathedral's safeguarding polices are available on the website.

Successful applicants will be recruited in line with Church of England **Safer Recruitment Policy** and will be required to complete a **DBS clearance** and complete Church of England **Basic Safeguarding Training**.

Main Duties of Lay Clerks

- To sing Bass with the Cathedral Choir for services, concerts, broadcasts, tours or any other event as required
- To prepare all music to the highest standards in advance of rehearsals
- On occasion, to be willing to undertake solo work as required
- To assist in mentoring Junior Choral Scholars (under 18)
- To ensure that any safeguarding training is undertaken, and to pass on any safeguarding concerns without delay



Responsibilities of all our team

- As the Cathedral is run by a small team, all staff and contractors are expected to act flexibly and cover for each other when required
- You could be asked to undertake as requested other duties as might reasonably be expected
- To follow the policies and procedures of the Cathedral, paying particular attention to the requirements of the policies and procedures for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children
- To treat everyone with respect and dignity in the workplace



Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and Training	• Experience at singing in a professional or quasi-professional choir • Experience at singing one to a part	• Music diploma
Experience and Skills	• Excellent musicianship and outstanding sightreading ability • Ability to be flexible and work as part of a small team • Awareness of, and adherence to, the very best safeguarding practices	• Good knowledge of the Anglican choral repertoire
Personal Qualities	• A good vocal tone • Flexibility • Compassionate • Approachable • Good organisational skills	• Willingness to engage with the Cathedral community • Sympathetic to the Church of England and an interest in the Cathedral's music

Interview and selection process

Please submit your application using the application form and provide a **personal statement** (max. 1000 words). Applications should be received by email to alexander@derbycathedral.org **by Monday 30th November**. Once the application form has been received, should we wish to invite you to interview and audition, you will be required to prepare a solo piece and undertake several passages of sightreading. The solo piece could be an aria from an oratorio or passion, a song or an extended solo section from a choral work. You will also be asked some questions about safeguarding. This position is offered subject to two satisfactory references and the completion of a Confidential Declaration Form and DBS clearance.

Equality statement

The Cathedral is **committed** to the principles of equality and diversity in employment and aims not to discriminate on grounds of gender, age, appearance, race, sexuality, class, ability, culture, nationality, political belief, trade union activity or religious belief. It is the intention of the Cathedral Chapter to ensure that the principle outlined in the Equal Opportunities Policy are **embedded** into our planning, decisions and actions which extends to the treatment of job applicants, employees (including former employees) clients, visitors, and pilgrims. To ensure that Chapter's **Equality and Diversity policy** is operating effectively (and for no other purpose) we **maintain records** of employee' and applicants' racial origins, gender and disability. Ongoing monitoring and regular analysis of such records provide the basis of appropriate action to eliminate unlawful direct and indirect discrimination and **promote** equality and diversity.

How to apply

To request an **application form** (CV is not an acceptable substitute but may be attached as an additional document if required), please email alexander@derbycathedral.org or telephone the office on 01332 341201.

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