

**ST NICHOLAS SCHOLA CANTORUM**  
**CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

**ATTENDANCE AT AUDITION**

- The full schedule of rehearsals, workshops, services and performances is available to any intending scholar before audition. Applicants should only present themselves for audition once they have studied the schedule and are sure they can give 100% commitment.
- Those who, after audition, are offered a Choral Scholarship for the 2019/2020 academic year must agree to abide by the conditions set out in this document and must signify this by signing a letter of agreement.

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY**

- In the event that a rehearsal or service has to be missed due to an unavoidable and foreseen circumstance, the absence must be discussed and agreed well in advance with the director. An unforeseen circumstance, such as serious illness, etc, must also be notified as much in advance as possible to the director. If a rehearsal is missed for whatever notified reason, scholars may be required to attend a catch-up session with director or tutors.
- Scholars must be punctual in their arrival at church for all rehearsals. The church doors must be kept locked during evening rehearsals, therefore scholars must arrive well BEFORE the rehearsal start time. If scholars know in advance that they are going to be unavoidably late they must contact the director and arrange for access.
- Absence without prior notification will result in a verbal warning. A second absence will result in a written warning, and a third such infringement of membership policy will result in the scholar losing his/her place in the choir.
- The same process applies to continual unpunctuality, continued absences whether notified or not, and in general any continuing infringement of the conditions set out in this document.

**MUSICIANSHIP**

- St Nicholas Schola Cantorum is committed to ensuring all its members are skilled in musicianship and especially the important skills of aural perception and singing at sight. All scholars are expected to take part in its musicianship programme at the appropriate level, in specially arranged classes held at agreed times and in addition to the set schedule.
- Non-attendance at these classes may result in losing a place in the Schola Cantorum and the award of the scholarship.

**CONTEXT AND PARTICIPATION**

- Membership of the Schola Cantorum is more than simply singing in a choir. Choral Scholars take part in an 800 year old tradition in which music functions as part of church ritual. The obvious elements of this tradition and ritual function are the special robes that are worn, the movement around the church building in procession, and the leading the spoken as well as the sung portions of the service.
- Regardless of personal religious belief, scholars are expected to enter fully into this very particular musical environment, and to assimilate the instruction given in the historical and liturgical aspects of the music sung.

**MUSIC AND ROBES**

- The Schola Cantorum provides an expensive resource of music and robes. All efforts must be made to ensure that music is looked after carefully, marked up in the prescribed manner, and returned promptly when requested.
- Similarly, the robes assigned to each scholar must be worn and carefully stored as instructed.