



WELCOME TO

VOICE *for* LIFE

*A singer's guide to the RSCM's acclaimed
choral training scheme – what it is, how
it works, how to take part*

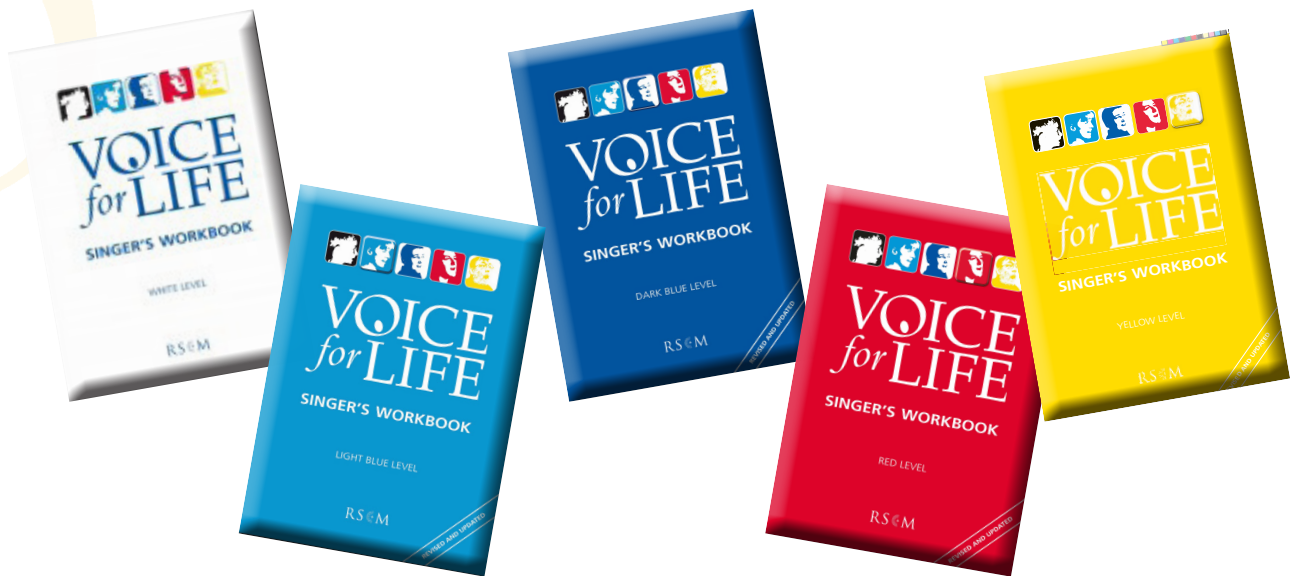
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About VOICE for LIFE

VOICE for LIFE

is a training scheme for choral singers. It will help you to discover what your voice can do, and then strengthen it. It encourages you to learn about music and look at what it means to be a singer and a member of a choir. This leaflet tells you how the scheme works, what it offers you, and how to take part.

Voice for Life is for singers of all abilities from beginner to advanced. There are five levels – White, Light Blue, Dark Blue, Red and Yellow. There is a *Voice for Life* singer's workbook for each level.



Voice for Life is arranged into five modules to help you learn a range of different singing skills:

- *Module A: Using the voice well* helps you to use your body and voice mechanism to sing well.
- *Module B: Musical skills and understanding* looks at how music works and how to read, write and understand it.
- *Module C: Repertoire* helps you to discover the background to the music you sing – its story and its style.
- *Module D: Belonging to the choir* looks at what it means to be part of a choir and how to get the most out of it.
- *Module E: Choir in context* explores how your choir fits into the world around it – school, church, work or other social group.

How VOICE for LIFE works

The workbooks contain:

- Information, help and advice about each module
- Practice tips, activities, exercises, puzzles and projects
- Music reference information
- A target checklist for each module
- A declaration for the choir trainer to sign when you achieve all the targets and complete the level

Your choir trainer will suggest which level you should start at. You will need your own *Voice for Life* workbook for that level. (Some choirs provide these for singers, or you may be asked to buy your own.)

Each workbook contains graded targets for each module. Your choir trainer and senior choir members will

- help you to decide which targets to work towards
- assess whether you have reached them
- sign and date your workbook each time you achieve a target

When all the targets in that workbook are achieved, you have completed that level and are ready to move onto the next one.

There is a lapel badge for each level of *Voice for Life*, and a certificate for each level you complete. Also, if your choir wears robes, each time you complete a level you will be entitled to a *Voice for Life* medal on a coloured ribbon.



VOICE for LIFE questions

Do I have to do *Voice for Life*?

If your choir uses *Voice for Life*, you will probably be asked to join it. Many singers really enjoy taking part because it is challenging and rewarding, and everyone does it together.

What does it cost?

Many choirs provide workbooks free of charge, but you may be asked to buy your own. Many choirs also reward singers with badges, medals, ribbons and certificates. If not, you can buy these if you like, but they are optional.

Are there lots of exams?

Not in *Voice for Life* itself. But the scheme also prepares you for the RSCM Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. These are optional formal graded exams which fit with the *Voice for Life* levels as shown in the chart on the right.

When you pass an award exam, you will be able to wear a bronze, silver or gold medal on a coloured ribbon.

The medals and ribbons
for the bronze, silver and
gold awards



How do I find out more?

Talk to your choir trainer, or other members of your choir. Take a look at the scheme's website – www.rscm.com/voiceforlife/ where you will find additional information and helpful links. For information about how to buy *Voice for Life* books or other items, visit www.rscmshop.com/voiceforlife/.