

Dartington Community Choir – Attendance and concert requirements – Sept to Nov 2026 (Autumn term)

Introduction

Dartington Community Choir (DCC) is a performing choir which rehearses and performs large scale choral concerts to a high standard, with professional soloists and orchestral players, in the historic 15th Century Dartington Hall. It is a non-auditioning community choir which requires a high level of commitment from all members in order to meet the standards of performance and shared musicianship. Through the pursuit of these standards, we aim to make both rehearsals and performances enjoyable and rewarding for our fellow singers and audiences alike.

The principal choir concerts are twice a year, usually in April and November. These attendance and performance guidelines apply to these concerts. Separate guidance will apply to the more informal summer singing and Christmas concerts.

In line with **DCC's rules** members are expected to participate in performances, except in special circumstances (see Rule 15) and to attend the required number of rehearsals to do so (see Rule 17). In the event of a member failing to meet the attendance requirement, their participation in a performance shall be at the discretion of the Management Committee on the advice of the Music Director.

Required attendance to sing in concerts is:

- 70% of Monday rehearsals up to the concert cut-off date (3 weeks before the concert)
- **plus** the final rehearsals in the week preceding the concert (Monday and Saturday)
- **and** the dress rehearsal on the day of the concert

Saturday rehearsals (three per term) are recommended for all and can make up for missed Monday rehearsals.

It is recognised that members may have particular unavoidable attendance issues relating to health, family and work. It is the responsibility of members to keep the Membership Secretary advised of these. The current membership secretary is Liz Seward, membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk

Rehearsal dates are all on the DCC website. Please check these regularly for any updates on rehearsal venues and any additional sectional rehearsals.

Guidelines for autumn term 2026

Our autumn concert is: ***Odes to St Cecilia*, Sunday 22 November 2026, 7:30pm**
Dartington Great Hall

1. If you know you will not be able to sing in the concert, or to participate fully in rehearsals, please advise the membership secretary at the start of the concert term. membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk

2. Registers will be kept for all Monday and Saturday rehearsals. Members are responsible for completing the register each week. If you are unable to attend, please advise the membership secretary membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk
3. Members are expected to attend 70% of Monday rehearsals up to the concert cut-off date which is **Monday 2 Nov** for the autumn concert 2026. So members need to have attended **5 out of 8 rehearsals by Mon 2 Nov to sing in the concert**. This will enable the concert seating plan to be put together and Dartington to be advised of seating requirements and number of tickets available for sale.
4. Attendance at extra **Saturday rehearsals** is strongly recommended for all choir members and can also be taken into account for members who fall short for the 70% Monday rehearsal requirement.
5. **All those singing in the concert must attend the final rehearsals in the week before the concert (Monday 16 Nov and Saturday 21 Nov) and the dress rehearsal on the afternoon of concert day (Sunday 22 Nov) Those not doing so will be unable to sing in the concert.**
6. **Choir members will move into concert seating from 3 weeks before the concert.** Anyone not singing in the concert can continue to attend rehearsals but will need to sit at the back of the hall. All loaned music for those not singing needs to be returned before the concert.
7. If you are unable to sing on the day of the concert due to unforeseen circumstances you need to contact the Concert Manager Sue Bradbury (**07411 791156**) Membership Secretary Liz Saward (**07941 540016**) or Chair Di Wharton (**07970 899230**) on the day, or any time in the week leading up to concert day. This will enable adjustment to be made to the seating plan and potentially open up space for the sale of extra tickets.
8. **All those singing in the concert need to be in the West Wing by 7pm on the day of the performance, having signed the register. If not, you will be unable to sing.**
9. Please return loaned music (with pencil markings rubbed out) at the end of concert - or within 5 days of the concert if you have been unable to sing.

Thank you for helping to contribute to the smooth planning and management of choir rehearsals and concerts. This will support the enjoyment and performance of all.