

Additional resources

THE VOCES8 APP

Encourage your students to make the VOCES8 Method their own. Build your own performances using the fully interactive app. Available from www.greshamcentre.com.

TRAINING SESSIONS

Led by members of VOCES8 and workshop training leaders from Voces Cantabiles Music, either at our education centre in central London or at your school. Contact paul@voces8.com for further information.

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Paul Smith

Paul is the founder of Voces Cantabiles Music (VCM), a charity that works with more than 20,000 young people every year. He sings with VOCES8 and is the CEO of the charity. He is a passionate educationalist and musician.

With VOCES8, Paul performs each year in the UK, USA, Europe, Asia and Africa. Performance highlights include the Wigmore Hall and the Festival Hall in London; the National Centre of Performing Arts in Beijing, and Opera City in Tokyo. With VOCES8, Paul has recorded eight albums, winning three international a cappella awards in the process. VCM is based at the Gresham Centre, a centre for vocal excellence, education, inspiration and outreach at St Anne and St Agnes Church in the heart of the City of London.

Paul designs and leads workshop programmes for young people, teachers and business leaders across the UK and internationally. As a writer and arranger, Paul has composed and arranged music for choirs, children and for VOCES8 which has been performed at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Alexandra Palace and around the world. He created the '21st-century Messiah' using Handel's music for a performance at the Foundling Museum.

Paul has written two children's musicals for students in Tower Hamlets, London: 'Around the World in 60 Minutes' and 'Street Cries of London', which were performed at Wilton's Music Hall with VOCES8 and students from local schools. He has also worked with the Children's Society on a project examining asylum conditions for young people in the UK.

Paul leads programmes for young leaders in the UK, France and the USA, and carries out public speaking and coaching engagements for sixth-form students and teachers on subjects such as 'The impact of creativity in modern society' and 'The VOCES8 Method'. 'The VOCES8 Method' is Paul's first book and he is delighted to be an ambassador for Edition Peters.

Acknowledgements

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Finally, to my friends and family. To my parents who foolishly agreed to be guinea pigs for the first four stages at a family BBQ, and to everyone who has sat around clicking and clapping just to please me. Music is made in groups, with friends and when people get together in formal and informal settings. It's about expressing emotion, fun, and sharing something special. Music was here before us and will be here afterwards. Thanks to my friends and family, who get to live through our version of it.

Paul Smith

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Instructions

- Set the stage while the hall is empty with one chair and one microphone on a stand.
- When ready to start, walk onto the stage and sit down with the microphone.
- Welcome everyone in a way that requires a response.
- Outline the following instructions:

1. If I do this (move your finger in a circular motion), that means keep going.



2. If I do this (move your hand from low to high) that means get louder.



3. If I do this (move your hand from high to low), that means get quieter.



4. If I do this (clench your fist) that means stop.



- These are the only physical instructions you will need to give.
- Make sure that any instruction you give is clear, visible, and as large as you can make it.
- Say 'copy me'. Pause. Begin.



Use this code to watch a video demonstration of these instructions

YOU: 1, 2, 3, 4 (counting the numbers on one hand).

THEM: They copy you.

YOU: Repeat twice (counting the numbers on one hand the first time and on two hands the second time).

THEM: They copy you.

YOU: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Do this three times (counting numbers on one hand, then two).

THEM: They copy you.

YOU: 1, 2... 4, 5

Do this three times missing out different numbers each time (and doing the same with one and then two hands).

THEM: They copy you.

Introducing physical actions (movements happen with a rhythmic beat):

YOU (still speaking numbers):

1	2	3	4
Left arm out	Left arm up	Left arm out	Left arm down

THEM: They copy you.

YOU:

1	2	3	4
Right arm out	Right arm up	Right arm out	Right arm down

THEM: They copy you.

YOU: Repeat two or three times. You can vary the tempo if you want to.

1	2	3	4
Left hand slap thigh	Right hand click	Single clap	Right hand click

THEM: They copy you.

YOU: Double the length of this pattern and repeat. Set a steady tempo now.

THEM: They copy you.