



Shine Choirs Festival 2027 – FAQs

The Shine Festival returns for 2027 on Sunday 14th March! Shine Festival is an inclusive festival, providing an open stage and feedback for singing groups across the Tees Valley area. We hope you can join us!

If you have any questions that aren't covered below please get in touch: Ben_Helm@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Take Note – Venue Change for 2027!

Middlesbrough Town Hall will be closed throughout 2027 for essential building and repair works.

Shine Festival will therefore take place in the fantastic new auditorium in the Digital Life building at Teesside University.

Full address:

Digital Life Building,
Teesside University,
Phoenix Building 2\06,
Middlesbrough,
TS1 3BA

The stage is fully accessible with ramps for wheelchair users or those with restricted mobility.

Who can get involved in this year's Shine Festival?

The 2027 Shine Choirs Festival event is open to all singing groups from across the North East. We would love to see a wide variety of singing groups, of all genres and abilities, taking part in the festival – it is an all day celebration of inclusive singing and local music making!

What is the schedule for the day?

The day will be split up into 3 performance sessions: 10:30 – 12:15, 13:00 – 14:45, and 15:30 – 17:15.

There will be 4 groups performing in each session, and choirs are required to stay for the duration of their session.

How do we sign up?

All you need to do is complete the sign up form here: [Shine 2027 Sign Up Form!](#)

Please get in touch if you need this in an alternative format.

The deadline for choirs signing up to the festival is **29th January 2027**. Shortly after this date, we'll assign each group to one of the three sessions across the day and let you know which one your choir has been assigned to.



Entry Fee

Please be aware that if your application is successful to perform, there will be an entry fee to pay to take part in the festival. Fees are £30 for community choirs. We will give you more information via email on how to pay this if you are chosen to perform.

How long will each choir have on stage?

Each choir will have up to 12 minutes on stage. You don't have to use it all, but you can! We ask that you tell us your repertoire when signing up, along with the length of each piece, however we understand that there might be some last-minute changes.

Will we have chance to warm up before our performance?

For Shine 2027, we will continue to have no pre-performance warm-ups for community choirs in the schedule. In the spirit of community concerts and engagement, we want to retain as many people in the audience to support, clap and cheer for every group performance.

Please come to your session time 'pre-warmed' and/or do any quick warm-ups before you go on stage.

What type of accompaniments can we use in our performance?

On the sign-up form you will need to tell us what type of accompaniment each piece has. We can accommodate acapella, acoustic instruments (piano or other) or recorded backing tracks.

Is the festival competitive?

The Shine Festival is a non-competitive event. There will be specialists on hand to provide each choir with written feedback on the day, which you'll receive at the end of the performance session.

Can we bring people to watch?

Yes! Audience tickets will be available from the Town Hall's website and Box Office shortly after sign up for groups has closed. Full day festival tickets will be available, as well as tickets for separate sessions.

Will there be refreshments available?

We are working on this! Watch this space...
We encourage you to bring your own water bottle.

Can children attend?

Under 18s can access the festival for free. Please do still obtain a free ticket per child via the Town Hall website however.