

BRADFIELD COLLEGE

The Pursuit of Excellence
The Spirit of Adventure

THE BRADFIELD CHORAL FOUNDATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

VOCES8 FOUNDATION



WHERE VOICES FLOURISH

The Bradfield Choral Foundation

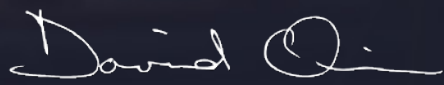
Choral music has long occupied a central place in the life of Bradfield College. Founded to educate and sustain the choir of St Andrew's Parish Church, the College continues to place singing and performance at the heart of its musical and cultural life.

The Bradfield Choral Foundation has been established to build upon this heritage through the creation of a distinctive and ambitious programme for young singers. Rooted in the traditions of the Chapel and the wider life of the College, the Foundation will provide exceptional musical training within a broad and intellectually ambitious school environment.

In a world increasingly shaped by distraction and digital culture, choral music offers young people the opportunity to encounter beauty, to develop discipline and collaboration, and to participate in something larger than themselves. Through our unique partnership with the VOCES8 Foundation and with Dr Stephen Darlington as our Programme Advisor, pupils will benefit from specialist vocal training, regular choral services, and a vibrant programme of performance opportunities, equipping them with the skills necessary to pursue future study and develop careers within the music profession.

Partnerships with local Primary and Prep Schools will ensure that the Foundation's vision extends beyond the College itself, widening opportunities for young people to experience choral singing and collective music-making. Through the provision of Choral and Organ Scholarships, the Foundation will ensure that these opportunities remain accessible to all.

> "OUR VISION IS THAT PUPILS LEAVE BRADFIELD NOT ONLY WELL-QUALIFIED, BUT DEEPLY FORMED: SHAPED BY BEAUTY, ENRICHED THROUGH MUSIC, AND EQUIPPED TO LIVE LIVES OF DEPTH AND FULFILMENT."



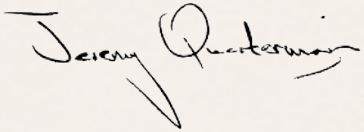
David Quinn
Director of Music

SHAPED BY MUSIC
INSPIRED FOR LIFE

Our vision at Bradfield is to inspire a lifelong love of learning within a vibrant and inclusive community: one that is pastorally nurturing, intellectually ambitious and culturally rich. We seek to help every young person flourish, equipping them not only for success beyond school but for lives of meaning, contribution and fulfilment.

The launch of the Bradfield Choral Foundation represents an exciting new chapter in that vision. It builds upon our long-standing commitment to the performing arts and our belief that music plays a unique role in human development. The benefits of belonging to an outstanding choral tradition extend far beyond musical achievement. Singing together cultivates discipline, confidence, empathy, resilience and a deep sense of belonging.

Within the Anglican choral tradition, young people experience the extraordinary privilege of working collectively in pursuit of something beautiful. They learn to listen, to lead, to serve and to strive for excellence together. These are qualities that will remain with them long after their final performance.



Jeremy Quartermain
Head



THE CHORAL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

The Bradfield Choral Foundation is designed to nurture talented young singers within a culture of musical excellence, intellectual curiosity and personal growth. It will provide pupils with the skills, experience and confidence to pursue choral scholarships at leading universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, or to continue their musical education at one of the UK's renowned conservatoires.

While some scholars may go on to professional careers in music, the Foundation is intended for all young people who share a passion for singing and a commitment to musical excellence. Its purpose is not simply to prepare future musicians, but to enrich lives through participation in one of the most rewarding and enduring artistic traditions.

The Foundation offers a carefully structured programme of training and performance alongside a rich calendar of services, concerts and collaborative projects. Through partnerships with distinguished conductors, musicians and choral organisations, pupils will experience music-making of the highest quality while remaining fully immersed in the wider life of the College.



EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL TRAINING

- Weekly individual singing lessons with specialist vocal teachers
- Alexander Technique sessions to support vocal and physical development
- Expert guidance in vocal technique, musicianship and performance



A LIVING CHORAL TRADITION

- An ambitious schedule of rehearsals and Chapel services, including Choral Evensongs twice weekly
- Participation in major College services and liturgical celebrations
- Termly visits to major cathedrals and choral institutions



PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

- A diverse programme of concerts, recitals and public performances
- Collaborations with leading conductors, musicians and choral ensembles
- Opportunities to perform challenging and inspiring repertoire



SCHOLARSHIP AND PROGRESSION

- Further development through the Chapel Consort
- Preparation for university choral scholarship auditions
- Mentoring and guidance for those considering further musical study





PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VOCES8 FOUNDATION

The Bradfield Choral Foundation will benefit from a flagship partnership with the VOCES8 Foundation, one of the world's leading vocal ensembles and music education organisations. Internationally recognised for artistic excellence, education, and outreach, the VOCES8 Foundation work with young singers and schools across the UK and internationally through an extensive programme of concerts, workshops, mentoring, and leadership development.

The partnership will provide Bradfield pupils with exceptional access to professional musicians, high-level coaching, and wider musical opportunities beyond the College itself. Central to the partnership will be regular engagement with members of the VOCES8 Foundation through masterclasses, workshops, rehearsals, and performances. Members of the Choral Foundation will enrol in the VOCES8 Foundation's Young Leaders Programme.

The partnership will also extend beyond Bradfield itself. Working alongside the VOCES8 Foundation, the College aims to support singing in local primary and secondary schools through workshops, outreach projects, and larger-scale "Big Sing" events hosted at Bradfield. In doing so, the Choral Foundation will seek not only to nurture exceptional young singers within the College, but also to strengthen opportunities for choral singing across the wider community.

MASTERCLASSES

Termly coaching sessions, workshops, and masterclasses led by members of the VOCES8 Foundation

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

Opportunities to sing alongside professional singers in concerts, services, and other performances

VOCES8 CENTRE

Visits to the VOCES8 Centre in London for rehearsals, performances, and recording opportunities

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME

Participation in the VOCES8 Foundation Young Leaders Programme

MENTORING

Mentoring for pupils considering university choral scholarships and future careers in singing

OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to observe and engage with professional rehearsal, recording, filming, and production processes



Photo Credit: Andy Staples

GUIDED BY EXCELLENCE

The Bradfield Choral Foundation is led by an outstanding team of musicians, teachers and mentors whose expertise spans performance, conducting, composition and music education. Together they provide the guidance, inspiration and individual support that enable young singers to flourish.



DAVID QUINN,
Director of Music



David Quinn is Director of Music and College Organist at Bradfield College, where he oversees all aspects of the Music Department and leads the College's Chapel Music.

A former Chorister at Durham Cathedral, he is a graduate of the University of Oxford, where he studied music while serving as Organ Scholar at St Peter's College. He has held posts at Newcastle Cathedral and Southwell Minster, and served as Assistant Organist at Radley College, where he began his classroom teaching career.

A Fellow of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO), David directs all aspects of the choral foundation, preparing the choir for regular services and major school occasions, the planning of repertoire, and the teaching of organ pupils.

He has conducted large-scale choral works including Haydn's The Creation with the Bradfield College Choral Society and continues to champion the choral tradition at the heart of the College.

BARNABY SMITH,
Associate Director

Barnaby Smith is a Grammy-nominated conductor, countertenor and Artistic Director of VOCES8, leading one of the most influential choral platforms of the 21st century through global performance, education and digital innovation. He conducts and performs worldwide with leading ensembles including the Philharmonia Orchestra, appearing at major venues such as the Royal Albert Hall and Sydney Opera House. His recordings include six No.1 albums and collaborations with artists such as Paul Simon and Jacob Collier. A passionate educator and producer, he co-created the Ensemble Singing Master's at the University of Cambridge and leads international programmes, while producing award-winning recordings and digital broadcasts that have expanded global access to choral music.



DR STEPHEN DARLINGTON,
Programme Advisor



Stephen is one of Britain's most distinguished choral conductors. He served as Director of Music and Tutor in Music at Christ Church Oxford from 1985–2018, following appointments as Master of the Music at St Albans Cathedral and Artistic Director of the International Organ Festival.

At Christ Church, he combined the highest standards of cathedral music with a commitment to academic musical excellence, leading the world-renowned choir on international tours and recordings. His extensive discography of more than sixty recordings includes numerous award-winning releases, among them a Classical BRIT Award-winning recording of Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light: A Requiem* and a Grammy-nominated recording of Vaughan Williams' *An Oxford Elegy.*

Stephen has conducted leading orchestras in the UK and abroad, collaborated with many of today's foremost composers, and performed in major concert halls and festivals worldwide. He was awarded an MBE in 2019 for services to music and remains active internationally as a conductor, organist, lecturer, adjudicator and consultant.

HENRY SMITH,
Graduate Organist

Henry studied for a BMus at Royal Holloway, University of London, where he was a Choral Scholar and studied organ with Rupert Gough. During his time there, he became accompanist to the University Founder's Choir, performing regularly at venues including Southwark Cathedral and Hampton Court Palace, and accompanying the choir on tour to Belgrade in 2024.

He became the Graduate Organist at Bradfield in September 2024, accompanying the Chapel Choir for weekly services as well as performances at venues including St George's Chapel, Windsor, Guildford Cathedral and Salisbury Cathedral.

An active recitalist, Henry has given performances at venues including Chester Cathedral and The Queen's College, Oxford, with forthcoming recitals including St Stephen Walbrook, London, and Norwich and Worcester Cathedrals.



JONATHAN BURNETT,
Head of Instrumental Studies



Jonathan Burnett is Head of Instrumental Studies at Bradfield College. A graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, he continued his studies under Professor Dona Lee Croft following the award of two major scholarships.

Jonathan has performed with leading orchestras including the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and London Soloists, and has collaborated with composers including Michael Nyman, Graham Fitkin and Alun Hoddinott. An experienced conductor, he currently directs the Berkshire County Youth Orchestra, leading performances at venues including the Royal Albert Hall and Birmingham Symphony Hall, as well as tours across Europe and China.

Alongside his work at Bradfield, Jonathan teaches at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama and has held teaching and examining roles at institutions including Eton College, the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and Trinity Laban.



SCHOLARSHIPS & HOW TO APPLY

The Bradfield Choral Foundation offers up to four Choral Scholarships each year to pupils demonstrating exceptional musical potential and a strong commitment to choral singing.

Choral Scholars will receive full access to the Foundation programme, including specialist vocal training, participation in Chapel music, masterclasses, performances, and partnership opportunities with the VOCES8 Foundation. In addition, Scholars will receive free individual singing lessons throughout their time at the College.

Generous bursary support may also be available, with awards of up to 100% in cases of exceptional musical promise and financial need.

The College is seeking pupils with significant experience in choral singing and high-level musical performance, together with the commitment, discipline, and enthusiasm required to contribute fully to the musical life of the Foundation.

4 CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE ANNUALLY

100% POTENTIAL BURSARY SUPPORT
FOR EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL PROMISE AND FINANCIAL NEED

FREE SINGING LESSONS
THROUGHOUT A SCHOLAR'S TIME AT BRADFIELD COLLEGE

INTERESTED?

To express an interest in auditioning for the programme, interested parties are welcome to contact the **Director of Music directly at dquinn@bradfieldcollege.org.uk.**
Formal scholarship auditions are held in February of Year 8, but singers are welcome to visit for an informal pre-audition and discussion any time from Year 6.

FIND OUT MORE

Further information about the wider admissions process can be found on our website or through **admissions@bradfieldcollege.org.uk**.
Late entries will be considered.

LEADING VOICES

LUCA (H 21-26)

Luca was a Music and Academic Scholar during his time at Bradfield. He is now reading Music with a Choral Scholarship at St Peter's College, University of Oxford.

Luca's interest in music started at a very early age and during his time at Bradfield he has also become very interested in Drama and has ambitions to pursue a career in opera or musical theatre.

> *"My proudest achievement at Bradfield was in 2025 during the 175th anniversary, when the whole community came together to perform Haydn's The Creation. I sang as part of the Chapel Choir, and as a soloist on one of the arias. Being able to sing in the Chapel accompanied by a full orchestra was such an amazing experience."*

TABBY (M)

Tabby joined Bradfield in Year 9 and joined Chapel Choir because she wanted to develop her singing. She has already had the opportunity to sing in places such as St George's Chapel, Windsor, Guildford Cathedral and at the College Carol Services in London.

> *"Being part of the choir has helped me grow in confidence, both as a singer and a performer, while also introducing me to friends for life.*
>
> *One of my most memorable experiences in the Chapel Choir was singing a solo in my very first concert at Bradfield. It was incredibly daunting, but I am so grateful to Mr Quinn and the choir for giving me that opportunity. Looking back, I would never have believed I would have the confidence to perform in front of such a large audience. The support and encouragement I have received through the choir have helped me grow enormously as a singer and performer, and it is an experience I will never forget!*
>
> *I would encourage any pupil who enjoys singing to join. It is a commitment, but the friendships, experiences, and opportunities make it such an amazing opportunity."*







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www.bradfieldcollege.org.uk | admissions@bradfieldcollege.org.uk

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