

# Job description/person specification



## Session Leader (Lincoln) and Session Leader (Sheffield)

### ABOUT BEVOX

Founded in 2010, BeVox is a contemporary choir with branches in Lincoln and Sheffield. Open to all adults, our non-auditioned choirs sit in the niche between “just for fun” community choirs and auditioned, performance-focussed choirs. Our philosophy is to have high standards, and provide the support necessary to enable people to meet those standards. We don’t audition singers to join the choir, but we do ask them to work on the music between sessions and to strive for excellence.

We sing arrangements of pop, rock, musical theatre, swing and light classical music, which vary from relatively straightforward to quite complex. All our arrangements are written (and published) by our Artistic Director, Timothy Allen. We typically learn 11 songs in a 12-week season, and perform to backing tracks (again, created by our Artistic Director). We work towards a variety of performances, from small-scale events in local churches to sizeable events in concert halls.

We currently have around 70 members in Lincoln and around 90 in Sheffield, plus a small number that access sessions remotely (by watching video recordings of the live sessions). Both branches learn the same repertoire at the same pace, and singers from both areas are welcome to perform in any of our concerts.

### OVERVIEW OF THE ROLE

Session Leader for our existing Lincoln and/or Sheffield branches – running sessions every fortnight, with our Artistic Director running the sessions in the intervening weeks.

**When:** Lincoln – Wednesdays 7pm-9pm (we’d expect you to attend from at least 6:45pm)  
Sheffield – Thursdays 7pm-9pm (we’d expect you to attend from at least 6:45pm)

**Dates:** We run three 12-week seasons every year, approx. Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Sept-Nov

**Where:** Lincoln – Bishop Grosseteste University, Longdales Road LN1 3DY  
Sheffield – Sheffield Springs Academy, Hurlfield Road S12 2SF

**Start Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (Lincoln), 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (Sheffield)

This role will suit someone who couples great musicianship with a sincere desire to encourage amateur singers to achieve their full potential. We are looking for someone who believes in “meeting people where they’re at”, and then supporting them to take a step forward. Passion for music is a must, and the ability to share that passion with the choir and enthuse them is central to the role.

As a session leader, you would be working closely with our Artistic Director to realise his vision of the music. You would be alternating weeks with him, so consistency of approach will be important – but we’d like to benefit from your own unique personality and skillset too.

We are a singer-led choir – we believe our singers are responsible for their own learning, and our role is to support them in that. In practice, this means that sessions are often a balance between answering singers’ questions about the music, rehearsing sections that the singers need help with, and applying your own musicianship to ensure the music is performed to the highest standard the choir is capable of.

There are potential opportunities to do more within the choir over time, and we’d be keen to support someone who wanted to develop in the role. We are looking for someone who is committed to the choir, and who intends to stay in the role for a number of years.

## MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead fortnightly choir sessions during each season
- Teach arrangements provided by us (we will provide sheet music and recordings of all arrangements, plus backing tracks for sessions)
- Support choir members as they learn the music, including answering their questions, and rehearsing the music they feel they need most help with
- Preparing the choir to perform to the highest standard they are capable of – this includes becoming familiar with what they are capable of, and making informed decisions about when to push for more, and when to accept what is possible
- Liaise closely with BeVox's Artistic Director to ensure the music is being prepared consistently across all sessions – this will include working to a plan of which songs will be covered in which sessions, and having on-going conversations about stylistic approaches to the music, vowel shaping, phrasing etc.
- Actively encourage a sense of community and mutual support within the choir

There is no admin component to the role – all administrative tasks are covered by BeVox's team, including some volunteers from within the choir.

## SKILLS, QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

### Essential

- Experience directing choirs
- Excellent music-reading ability (including moderately complex rhythms)
- A commitment to supporting the development of all choir members, regardless of current skill level
- Confident conducting style, including conducting to backing tracks
- A commitment to equity of access, including providing additional support to anyone who needs it in order to be able to participate fully in the choir
- Excellent communication skills, not just as a public speaker, but also as a great listener
- Access to your own transport

### Desired

- Excellent piano skills, with the ability to lead sessions from the piano
  - We will consider candidates with basic piano skills if they are confident conducting to backing tracks
  - We will also consider candidates with no piano skills if they bring something unique and exceptional to the role, but as we would then also need to hire an accompanist, this may impact the fee we can offer
- Experience working with a group of mixed voice parts, mixed experience, and mixed age ranges (16-80+)
- Music degree or equivalent experience
- Access to your own equipment (piano/keyboard, facility to play backing tracks)
  - At interview, we will discuss options for candidates who don't have their own equipment

## PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Approachable
- Professional
- Passionate about music and sharing it with others
- Confident yet humble

## REMUNERATION

The role is offered on a freelance basis. The exact rate of pay would be determined at interview, based on skillset and experience. As a guide, expect between £100 and £150 per session initially.