

# Recording Endless Sky

We'd like to invite all children involved in the EDEN project to participate in creating a mass choir video of our new song, "Endless Sky". We will build the audio for this video using individual recordings of each singer. We'll combine this with videos of individuals singing and of local choirs singing together. Here's how you can get involved.

## Individual singers:

Every choir is made up of individual singers, so we'd love every participant to send us a separate audio recording and 2 different videos. You'll probably need access to 2 different devices to do this, so perhaps arrange to pair up with a friend or get some help from an adult. Here's what you need to do.

### 1) Learn your part of the song:

- a. The song has 4 parts – upper 1, upper 2, lower 1 and lower 2. Please either agree with your choir leader which part to learn or learn the part that most comfortably suits your voice.
- b. To learn the song, you can download an audio/video guide of your part, together with the sheet music and lyrics here:

<https://tinyurl.com/endless-sky-assets>

- c. Listen to the ALL PARTS guide first to hear the complete song, then learn your specific part using the individual part guide.

### 2) Record your part of the song as an audio file:

- a. It's important to record ONLY your voice and not the backing – so please use two devices.
- b. On one device, play back the guide track through headphones or earbuds so only you can hear it.
- c. On a second device, record yourself singing along. Here are some tips to make it work well:
  - i. Record indoors in a quiet, small space with the device you're recording on set quite close to you.
  - ii. Make sure the room is quite 'dead' sounding (sitting room = good; bathroom = bad)
  - iii. Set the device on something solid – not held in your hand – to avoid unnecessary noise.
  - iv. You can simply use Apple Voice Memo on iOS or the free Samsung Voice Recorder on Android.
  - v. During the first 2 bars of the introduction, please clap along with the click for 4 beats.
  - vi. You may find only using headphones in one ear helps you sing more in tune. If this is the case, please make sure you silence the sound from the other headphone with your hand/thumb or similar so that we don't hear the backing track on your recording.
- d. Once you are happy with your recording, please send it to us (see below)

### 3) Video yourself singing the song in two different styles:

- a. For the videos, it's important that we hear you singing along with backing track (i.e. both your voice and the guide track are audible – so please **don't** use headphones).
- b. Play back the guide track on a device that is hidden from view.
- c. With another device, please video yourself singing along. We will only use the video part, not the audio.
- d. Please create 2 different styles of video as follows:
  - i. **A headshot video** – like you'll have seen in many online choir videos. Sit in front of camera and sing directly to the camera (this is your 'audience'). Imagine singing to a really encouraging friend and smile!
  - ii. **A creative video** of you singing whilst dancing, walking in nature, looking at the sky etc. Be as creative as you like with this. Consider the lyrics when you are 'staging' this.
- e. Tips – for both videos, the following tips should help produce some great videos.
  - i. For headshot video, please make sure the background is plain and light coloured (e.g. a plain wall)
  - ii. Light: Make sure the light (artificial or natural) is good and behind the camera shining towards you. Check that there are no strange shadows.
  - iii. Headshot videos are best taken vertically (portrait/as you would hold a phone), Creative videos are best taken horizontally (landscape/on side)
  - iv. Consider having a friend or family member help you make the creative video.

**Choir Leaders** (whatever you can do to help as an 'extra' would be gratefully received!):

- 1) Please do help your choir to learn the song.
- 2) It would be useful if you could help your singers decide which part to learn – so we end up with a good mix of ALL parts.
- 3) Please make a video of the choir rehearsing/performing the song with the Guide Track playing in 'landscape/horizontal' format.
- 4) We just need one video for each choir – we don't need a separate audio file.

## Uploading Audio File and Videos

Once you've created the audio file and videos to send us, please upload them at the link below where we will also ask 'permission to use' from someone over 18 years old:

<https://tinyurl.com/endless-sky-upload>