**ANOINTED – Leavers Celebrations 2023**

**Guidance on Music**

Preparation for the Leavers’ Service does pay dividends. It gives pupils confidence to take part fully on the day, while enriching learning experience and school ethos at the same time. The backing tracks, sheet music and lyrics can be found at:

<https://schools.chichester.anglican.org/2023-leavers-celebrations/>

Please use these not only in preparation for the Leavers Celebrations but also in assemblies and at other times.

**I, The Lord of Sea And Sky (Here I am Lord)**

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/01_IThe_Lord_Of_Sea_And_Sky.mp3>

This song, based on words from the prophet Isaiah, recognises that we are all included in God’s plan and that, even when we feel at our most helpless, there is something good that we can do. It is a song of hope and love, and we will sing it during the procession of the Bible and Candle, followed by the banners.

**The Lord’s My Shepherd.**

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/02_The_Lords_My_Shepherd.mp3>

Psalm 23 is a really precious text to learn and know and this version is particularly memorable. It reminds us of how God is with us in our hearts and speaks to us in the words of scripture. There is a descant in the chorus for confident singers. The verses should be sung thoughtfully and the chorus enthusiastically.

**The Servant King**

https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/03\_The\_Servant\_King.mp3

There are a lot of words to get through in this hymn – but it brilliantly and beautifully encompasses the story and mission of Jesus as Lord but also the one who serves. Topically, it reflects the principles of monarchy which will be spoken of around the coronation of King Charles and which are enshrined in our British constitution and values. There is the sadness surrounding the Passion and Crucifixion but also the build-up to the glory of “it is Christ we’re serving” – and the confidence we can express in the chorus: “he calls us now to follow him”, echoing our opening hymn, “Here I am. Lord”.

**Hear My Prayer, O Lord**

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/02_Hear_My_Prayer_O_Lord.mp3>

This sung refrain is a way of joining in with and affirming each prayer that is read. The response is sung after each section of Looking back and Looking forward prayers, with quiet music as the prayers are read.

**Prayer Of St Richard**

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/04_Prayer_Of_St_Richard.mp3>

This has become something of a theme song for us, since it connects particularly with Chichester Diocese, as St Richard was Bishop of Chichester in 1244. It is a prayer but it has a flowing melody and the chorus in particular can be sung joyfully and confidently.

**My Lighthouse**

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/05_My_Lighthouse_MP3.mp3>

<https://cofechichestereducation.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2023/04/05_My_Lighthouse_with_guide_vocal_final.mp3>

We have used this song once before at the Leavers’ Celebrations and it proved very popular. You need a good sense of rhythm and plenty of practice to get the best from it, without getting too hung up on the metaphor. It reinforces the message that Jesus is real and can be trusted. The song is pitched so that the verses are not too low. The chorus goes quite high but with plenty of breath and a bit of ‘oomph’, most will manage it!