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Description automatically generated Teaching Notes – Music**

**Hymn: Jesus is risen, alleluia!**

You will fall in love with this new Easter song incredibly quickly. With a real catchy, tuneful melody that will be quick to pick up and a really super set of words telling the Easter story, this will be a really excellent new addition to the hymn repertoire of any school or church.

Start by teaching the chorus ‘Alleluia’, which is essentially the same line twice with a slightly different ending (the second being a fun octave leap). Make sure when learning this line that your singers focus on heading towards the stress on the ‘lu’ of alleluia, thus making the melody swing but also ensuring when they do get to the octave leap, there isn’t an ungracious strong landing on the ‘ia’.

After your singers have mastered the chorus, perhaps then consider speaking the words through of each of the verses as they go quite quickly. Once you have mastered the words, then teach the melody – in two bar chunks would be best as this will show the sequence. Just make sure they realise that in the third iteration of the sequence there is a slightly different ending before then adding the final fourth phrase, which is a completely different figuration, to complete the verse structure.

There are many different ways you could accompany this piece with options for piano, organ, bass, glockenspiel and trumpet and I would definitely consider adding in a drumkit part. There is also a really super second vocal line, which would work particularly nicely as a descant by your choir if you have one – so you could have the congregation remaining on the melody line and the choir adding in the second vocal line as a descant.

*Cathy Lamb, February 2024*