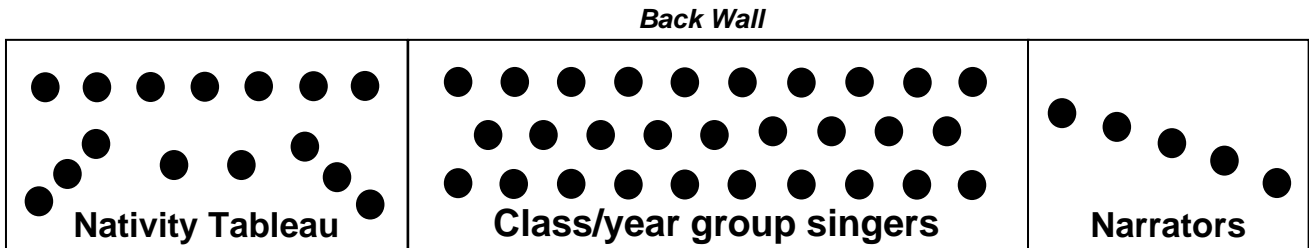


STAGING & PERFORMANCE SUGGESTIONS

You will, of course, have your own ideas about how to present your service in the physical space available. Below is just one representation of a possible staging layout, which includes areas for narrators, singers from each class/year group and a tableau of Nativity characters who assemble as the story progresses.



When not presenting, the other class/year groups sit in front of the stage/performance area, either facing the stage or facing the audience

- **Seating**
All children could be seated in class rows, in front of the stage, facing the audience who occupy the back section of your hall. Alternatively, the seated children could face the stage with the audience behind them. A third option would be to seat the audience down the sides and at the back of the hall, with the children in a block between them.
- **Movement on and off the stage or performing area**
As each year group takes its turn to present a part of the story, the narrators and singers move from the seating area to occupy the performing area as shown above. As characters are mentioned, they can take their places in the Nativity tableau area, wearing traditional costumes, and remaining there until the story and tableau are complete. After each class group's presentation, the singers and narrators sit back down, to be replaced by the singers and narrators of the next group.
- **Singing**
Each class group could sing their particular song to the assembled parents and seated children. In this way it is more of a performance. Alternatively, all children (including the seated ones) could stand to sing every song, giving it more of an assembly feel. The parents could be encouraged to stand and sing also. Perhaps distribute lyric sheets or project the words from the digital document available with this pack, so everyone who wants to join in can do so.
For the final song in particular, we do recommend that everyone joins in. With the completed Nativity tableau and the whole congregation singing, this will bring the service to a celebratory conclusion.

If you have any queries about the presentation of this Christmas service, please get in touch. We'll be delighted to offer you all the help we can.