



Scholarship Policy

Date of Policy: **9th July 2024**

Policy Responsibility: **Sam Gibbs (Principal)**

Updated or reviewed: **Annually**

PERFORMERS THEATRE COMPANY

PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ALL

The Performers Theatre Company Scholarship Scheme is a not-for-profit scheme formed in June 2024 following a number of anonymous individuals donating thousands of pounds to the school so as to allow children from 9-18 years of age the chance to access Performers Theatre Company's opportunities who would otherwise be prevented from doing so due to financial constraints.

The scheme offers selected children free places in the Musical Theatre sessions at Performers Theatre Company where pupils build their confidence, social and performance skills through acting, dance and singing. **Currently, the scheme is available to 12 children annually; each child's place costs £312 per year, equating to £26 per month.**

The scheme aims to reach, in particular, children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are either:

- shy and lacking in confidence
- confident but unfocused
- gifted and talented in the performing arts
- within a family with financial constraints.

This policy outlines the scholarship scheme in detail as well as how the application process works.

BACKGROUND AND VALUES

Background

The Performers Theatre Company Scholarship Scheme was set up in 2024 following a number of anonymous individuals donating thousands of pounds to the school as they believed so much in what the school stood for and was offering to children from all walks of life. However, they wished to allow these opportunities to be fully available to those who were not in a position to pay for the costs of sessions or other opportunities such as masterclasses or summer schools.

Be Your Best

Our school is focused on the vision of children being the best version of themselves, owning their unique talents and thriving both personally and professionally. In classes, children are provided a safe, positive and engaging space to develop their communication, social and teamwork skills as well as their performance skills that ultimately allow them to build their confidence, self-awareness and self-discipline.

Enjoyment

Performers Theatre Company is all about enjoyment. Children are encouraged to have a fun and enjoyable time in sessions, having the chance to enjoy life in the moment, take themselves away from any fears or worries and know that they are in an environment where they are respected, cared for and belong.

Diversity

Performers Theatre Company caters for all young people. Whatever identity, culture, background, age, gender, disability, belief or sexual orientation they possess, they know they will be welcomed with open arms and supported in every possible sense. Diversity and inclusion is a pivotal part of what Performers is all about - we are made up of hundreds of unique individuals who make up our loving and welcoming community.

OUR PRIORITY

Our main priority for our Scholarship Scheme at Performers Theatre Company is to increase the number of people within the target group who are reached and supported.

The **target group** is **young people aged 9-18 years old** who are:

- From a **household income of less than £40,000** (and **ideally less than £20,000**)
- Have **specific personal development needs**
- **Likely to benefit from the performing arts** as a tool for development
- **Gifted and talented within the performing arts**

Additional determinants have been recognised for the assessment of a young person. These include:

- Referral from a teacher
- Specific character descriptions e.g. shy or boisterous/difficult to concentrate
- Already showing an interest in Performers or currently attending a Performers class
- Young people from single parent families

The key outcomes are:

- Providing musical theatre opportunities for young people between 4-18 years of age who would otherwise not get the chance to attend due to low family income and additional barriers to access
- An environment that is safe, inspiring and positive for young people to thrive academically, socially and emotionally
- The development of young people that allows them to build their confidence, social and teamwork skills, self-esteem and performance skills

THE PROCESS

1) Complete the application form attached at the bottom of this policy. Ensure you read the instructions carefully.

2) Once this has been sent by the referee on the application form, we will contact you asking for the following information: A copy of a utility bill or council tax letter, proof of household income, proof of UK residency (i.e. passport/driving licence).

3) Following receipt of this information, we will look over your application form.

4) If successful, your child will be invited to an audition. This will take place at the home of the Principal - the parent/carer will be expected to stay. If unsuccessful, you will be informed of this. If you have ticked on the application form that you wish for a response as to why your application was unsuccessful, this will be arranged via email.

5) The audition - your child will be expected to prepare a 1 minute monologue of their choice and a song of their choice that is between 1-2 minutes in length.

6) On completion of their audition, the Principal will contact the applicant, if successful, via phone call. All details will be discussed and a start date arranged. If the child was unsuccessful with their audition, an email will be sent outlining the reasoning for this.

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Application for annual place - please complete in full.

How to complete this form:

- 1) Complete SECTION 1 yourself
- 2) Hand the semi-completed form to your chosen referee (this **must** be a TEACHER from your child's school who knows your child well) together with a stamped addressed envelope to: *Performers Theatre Company, 1 Lavant Close, Waterloooville PO8 8BQ.*
- 3) Ask your referee to complete SECTION 2 of this form and then send it to us in the envelope **you** provided.
- 4) Both pages of the application **MUST** be submitted together.

SECTION 1 - Your child

Child's full name: Age:

D.O.B: Year Group:

Male/Female: School attending:

Is the school: Independent/State/SEND/Other (circle appropriate)

Has your child ever participated or involved themselves in extra-curricular activities. Please provide details below.

SECTION 1 - Parent/carer 1 details

Full name and title: Address:

Occupation:

Mobile number:

Email address:

Postcode:

Best time to call: ☐ Morning ☐ Evenings
☐ Afternoon ☐ Weekends

The information provided by you, the parent/carer, must be accurate and true. Any dishonesty will result in the application being voided and your child no longer being considered for a scholarship at Performers Theatre Company.

For full terms and conditions regarding our Scholarship Scheme, please visit our website
www.performerstheatrecompany.com/scholarship

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SECTION 1 - Parent/carer 2 details

Full name and title:	<input type="text"/>	Address:	<input type="text"/>
Occupation:	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile number:	<input type="text"/>	Postcode:	<input type="text"/>
Email address:	<input type="text"/>		
Best time to call:	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Evenings	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekends	
Preferred contact:	<input type="text"/>		

SECTION 1 - Income

Please circle the box that represents your annual combined household income.

£0-£20,000	£20,001-£26,000	£26,001-£40,000	£40,001-£66,000	£66,001+
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Are there any financial circumstances that you would like us to be aware of?

Please give details of any child maintenance payments or other financial support being received.

The information provided by you, the parent/carer, must be accurate and true. Any dishonesty will result in the application being voided and your child no longer being considered for a scholarship at Performers Theatre Company.

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SECTION 1 - Reasons for scholarship

How do you feel that your child will benefit from a scholarship at Performers Theatre Company? Please answer in no more than 200 words.

I understand that the information provided is accurate and true. I acknowledge that if my child is accepted (upon completion of application submission and an audition) they will be awarded a one year scholarship of which they must attend at least 80% of sessions and conduct themselves appropriately. Failure to do so will result in the scholarship being voided and re-opened to a new child.

Signed:

Date:

Please tick the box if you wish to receive a response via email if your application is unsuccessful. ☐

The **next page is SECTION 2** and **must be completed by a teacher at your child's school who knows the child well**. Please ensure that you give the full application form to the referee in addition to your own stamped addressed envelope.

The information provided by you, the parent/carer, must be accurate and true. Any dishonesty will result in the application being voided and your child no longer being considered for a scholarship at Performers Theatre Company.

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SECTION 2 - Reference

Full name and title:

Position:

Organisation:

Please tick here if we can contact you about this application: ☐

Best time to call: ☐ Morning ☐ Evenings
☐ Afternoon ☐ Weekends

Mobile:

**Thank you for supporting
with this application
process.**

The Child

Please detail in what capacity you know the child and how long you have known them:

Do you feel that this child would benefit from a Performers Theatre Company scholarship? If so, please explain below:

Signed:

Date:

Once completed, please send this application in the stamped address envelope to:

Performers Theatre Company
1 Lavant Close
Waterlooville
PO8 8BQ

Do **NOT** hand this back to the parent/carers of the child.