



Scholarship Policy

Date of Policy: **16th August 2026**

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 fully funded access initiative established in June 2024 following generous donations from individuals who wished to enable more young people to access the opportunities offered by Performers Theatre Company.

The purpose of the Scholarship Scheme is to reduce financial and other barriers that may prevent a young person from accessing high-quality performing arts training and the personal, social and creative benefits that participation can provide.

Successful applicants are awarded a fully funded place within designated Musical Theatre sessions at Performers Theatre Company, where students develop their acting, singing and dance skills alongside confidence, communication, teamwork, self-discipline and social skills.

As of 2026, Performers Theatre Company receives no external funding specifically for the Scholarship Scheme. Despite this, we remain committed to making our training accessible and aim to provide approximately **3–5 fully funded scholarships each year**, subject to available places and financial capacity.

Scholarships are intended particularly for young people who may benefit significantly from participation in the performing arts but whose circumstances may otherwise prevent or substantially restrict their access.

BACKGROUND AND VALUES

2. Background

The Scholarship Scheme was established in 2024 following generous donations from individuals who strongly supported the work, ethos and opportunities provided by Performers Theatre Company.

The intention was to ensure that opportunities offered by Performers could be made available to young people who may not otherwise be in a financial position to access regular training.

While the original donations enabled the establishment of the scheme, Performers Theatre Company remains committed to continuing the Scholarship Scheme wherever financially possible.

3. Our Values

Be Your Best

Our vision is for every student to **Be Your Best**.

We encourage students to recognise and develop their individual strengths and to thrive both personally and creatively. Our sessions provide a safe, positive and engaging environment in which students can develop communication, social and teamwork skills alongside their abilities in acting, singing and dance.

Our aim is not simply to develop performers, but confident, self-aware and resilient young people.

Enjoyment

Enjoyment is central to the Performers Theatre Company experience.

Students should have the opportunity to have fun, develop friendships, express themselves creatively and spend time in an environment in which they feel respected, supported and that they belong.

Diversity and Inclusion

Performers Theatre Company is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which young people from different identities, cultures, backgrounds and circumstances are welcomed, valued and supported.

We recognise that barriers to participation can take many forms and aim, wherever reasonably possible, to ensure that financial circumstances do not prevent a young person from benefiting from our training.

OUR PRIORITY

4. Purpose of the Scholarship Scheme

The principal purpose of the Scholarship Scheme is to increase access to performing arts training for young people who may otherwise experience financial or other significant barriers to participation.

The scheme is available to young people aged **9-18 years**.

Applications are particularly encouraged where a young person:

- comes from a household experiencing financial constraints;
- has identified personal development needs;
- is likely to benefit socially, emotionally or personally from participating in performing arts training;
- demonstrates a particular interest, aptitude or talent within the performing arts;
- may otherwise be unable to access regular performing arts training.

Priority will ordinarily be given to applicants from households with a combined annual income below **£40,000**, with particular consideration given to households earning below **£20,000**.

However, household income is considered alongside the applicant's individual and family circumstances and does not, in isolation, determine whether a scholarship will be awarded.

5. Additional Factors

When considering an application, Performers Theatre Company may also take into account relevant circumstances including:

- a recommendation or referral from a teacher;
- identified areas of personal development, such as confidence, communication, focus, social interaction or teamwork;
- an existing interest in the performing arts;
- whether the young person currently attends or has previously attended Performers Theatre Company;
- family circumstances that create additional financial or practical barriers to participation;
- whether participation is likely to have a meaningful positive impact on the young person.

No single factor automatically qualifies or disqualifies an applicant.

Each application will be considered individually.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

6. What the Scholarship Covers

A standard Performers Theatre Company Scholarship provides a **fully funded place within the student's designated weekly Musical Theatre sessions for one year**.

This means that the normal tuition fee for those designated sessions will not be payable for the duration of the scholarship.

Unless expressly confirmed by Performers Theatre Company, a scholarship does not automatically cover additional costs associated with:

- productions;
- holiday intensives or summer schools;
- workshops or masterclasses;
- examinations;
- uniform;
- costumes;
- trips;
- tickets;

- additional classes or programmes; or
- other optional activities.

Performers Theatre Company may, at its discretion and subject to available resources, provide additional financial assistance towards other opportunities. Any such assistance will be considered separately and does not form an automatic entitlement under the Scholarship Scheme.

Scholarships have no cash value and cannot be transferred to another person.

7. Duration

Scholarships are normally awarded for a period of **one year**.

Receiving a scholarship does not guarantee that funding will continue beyond the stated award period. Where a student wishes to continue receiving scholarship support after their award expires, their circumstances may be reviewed and a further application or reassessment may be required.

Renewal will be subject to the student's circumstances, attendance, conduct, continued benefit from the programme, availability of scholarship places and the financial capacity of Performers Theatre Company.

ASSESSMENT AND AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS

8. How Applications Are Assessed

Scholarship applications will be considered on an individual basis.

When assessing an application, Performers Theatre Company may consider:

- household income and overall financial circumstances;
- additional financial pressures or barriers disclosed within the application;
- the anticipated benefit of participation to the young person;
- personal development needs;
- the young person's interest in and engagement with the performing arts;
- information provided by the parent/carer;
- the supporting teacher reference;
- suitability for the relevant Performers programme;
- availability within the appropriate class; and
- the number of scholarship places and level of funding available at the time.

Meeting the eligibility or priority criteria **does not guarantee that a scholarship will be awarded**.

The number of scholarships available is limited and there may be occasions where more suitable applicants apply than Performers Theatre Company is able to fund.

Scholarship decisions will be made by the Principal and, where appropriate, other members of the Performers Theatre Company leadership team.

All scholarship decisions are made in the best interests of the scheme and are final.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

9. Applying for a Scholarship

Applications should follow the process below:

1. Complete the application form

The parent/carer should complete Section 1 of the Scholarship Application Form in full.

All information provided must, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, be accurate and truthful.

2. Obtain a teacher reference

The application must then be provided to a teacher from the child's school who knows the child sufficiently well to provide an appropriate reference.

The teacher should complete Section 2.

To maintain the integrity and confidentiality of the reference, the completed application should be returned **directly to Performers Theatre Company by the referee** and should not be returned to the parent/carer.

3. Supporting financial information

Following receipt and initial consideration of the application, Performers Theatre Company may contact the parent/carer to request reasonable evidence of the household's financial circumstances.

This may include documents such as:

- evidence of household income;
- relevant benefit or financial-support documentation;
- a utility bill or council tax correspondence where reasonably required to verify information provided; and
- other documentation reasonably required to assess circumstances described within the application.

Only information reasonably necessary to assess the scholarship application will be requested.

4. Assessment

Once the required information has been received, the application will be assessed against the criteria contained within this policy.

5. Outcome

If an application is successful, the Principal or an authorised member of the leadership team will contact the parent/carer to discuss the scholarship, its conditions and the proposed start date.

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed of the outcome. Where appropriate, brief feedback may be provided.

CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

10. Attendance

Scholarship recipients are expected to demonstrate a strong commitment to their place.

Students should ordinarily maintain at least **80% attendance** across their funded sessions during the scholarship period.

Where attendance falls below 80%, the scholarship may be reviewed.

Performers Theatre Company recognises that there may be legitimate reasons for absence, including illness, medical circumstances, family emergencies or other exceptional circumstances. These will be considered before any decision is made regarding the continuation of an award.

Parents/carers are expected to communicate absences in accordance with Performers Theatre Company's normal attendance procedures.

11. Conduct

Scholarship recipients are subject to the same behavioural expectations, policies and Codes of Conduct as all other Performers Theatre Company students.

Receiving a scholarship does not alter the standards expected of a student.

A scholarship may be reviewed or withdrawn where there are significant or repeated concerns regarding:

- attendance;
- behaviour;
- engagement;
- compliance with the relevant Code of Conduct;
- misuse of the Scholarship Scheme; or
- information subsequently being found to have been deliberately false or misleading.

Except in cases of serious misconduct or deliberate dishonesty, Performers Theatre Company will normally discuss concerns with the parent/carer before withdrawing an award.

12. Changes in Circumstances

Parents/carers are encouraged to inform Performers Theatre Company where there is a significant change in circumstances that may affect the student's scholarship.

An improvement in financial circumstances will not necessarily result in the immediate withdrawal of an existing scholarship. Any review will consider the individual circumstances and the interests of the student.

Similarly, families experiencing additional financial hardship during the scholarship period are encouraged to communicate with Performers Theatre Company where further support may be required.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

13. Confidentiality

Performers Theatre Company recognises that scholarship applications contain private and potentially sensitive financial and personal information.

Applications will therefore be handled sensitively and confidentially.

Information relating to a student's scholarship status will only be shared with members of the Performers Theatre Company team where there is a legitimate operational need for them to know.

Students will not be treated differently within sessions because they hold a scholarship.

14. Personal Information

Personal information collected as part of the Scholarship Scheme will only be used for purposes connected with administering, assessing and reviewing scholarship applications and awards, unless another lawful purpose applies.

Performers Theatre Company will take reasonable steps to ensure that information supplied as part of an application is stored securely and is accessible only to appropriate authorised individuals.

Applicants should refer to Performers Theatre Company's GDPR Policy for further information about how personal information is collected, stored and used.

Information and supporting documentation will not be retained for longer than reasonably necessary for the administration of the Scholarship Scheme and any applicable legal or regulatory requirements.

OUTCOMES

15. Intended Outcomes

Through the Scholarship Scheme, Performers Theatre Company aims to:

- provide meaningful performing arts opportunities for young people aged 9-18 who may otherwise experience financial or other barriers to participation;
- provide a safe, positive, inclusive and inspiring environment in which young people can develop;
- support students in developing confidence, self-esteem, communication and teamwork skills;
- develop acting, singing and dance skills;
- encourage creativity, self-expression and positive social interaction;
- identify and nurture young people with an interest or talent in the performing arts; and
- ensure that a family's financial circumstances do not unnecessarily prevent a young person from accessing the opportunities available through Performers Theatre Company.

REVIEW OF THE SCHEME

16. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner where there are significant changes to the Scholarship Scheme, applicable legislation, organisational circumstances or funding arrangements.

Performers Theatre Company reserves the right to amend the Scholarship Scheme, eligibility priorities or number of available awards where necessary.

Any scholarship already awarded will, wherever reasonably possible, be honoured for its stated duration unless it is withdrawn in accordance with the conditions contained within this policy.

Policy Responsibility: Principal

Date of Policy: 16th August 2026

Next Review: August 2027

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SCHOLARSHIP



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, 4 The Terrace, Green Lane, Hambledon PO7 4ST*
- 3) Ask your referee to complete SECTION 2 of this form and then send it to us in the envelope **you** provided.
- 4) All 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 in any extracurricular 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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SCHOLARSHIP



SECTION 1 - Parent/carer 2 details

Full name and title:		Address:	
Occupation:			
Mobile number:		Postcode:	
Email address:			
Best time to call:	☐ Morning	☐ Evenings	
	☐ Afternoon	☐ Weekends	
Preferred contact:			

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.

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

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SCHOLARSHIP



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 acknowledge that, if my child is accepted, they will be awarded a one-year scholarship and are expected to maintain at least 80% attendance and conduct themselves appropriately. I understand that failure to meet the conditions of the Scholarship Policy may result in the scholarship being reviewed or withdrawn.

I understand that information supplied as part of this application will be processed in accordance with Performers Theatre Company's GDPR Policy and Scholarship Policy.

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.

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

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SCHOLARSHIP



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 addressed envelope to:

**Performers Theatre Company
4 The Terrace,
Green Lane
Hambledon PO7 4ST**

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