



PERFORMERS THEATRE COMPANY

School Handbook

www.performerstheatrecompany.com

At Performers Theatre Company, our aim is to offer high quality teaching and outstanding performance opportunities to children and young people aged between 5-18. Our highly skilled and professionally trained teachers aspire to give our members the chance to perform to their highest ability in all aspects of the performing arts through building their performance, self-confidence, physical, mental, social and life skills in engaging and exemplary lessons. It is our goal to give our members long-lasting memories and performance opportunities that will allow them to achieve and prosper in all areas of their future lives.

~

After making the decision to open Performers Theatre Company in December 2021, Performers officially opened its doors in May 2022. Since the school's inception, we have gone from strength to strength, giving our young people a range of exciting opportunities that have allowed them to thrive and shine in their own unique way. We are also offering our services to local schools in the form of after school clubs of which they have been very well received. I look forward to offering our services further afield and building strong working partnerships. I have no doubt that the school will continue to thrive as I have a hugely supportive network system around me who I am incredibly grateful for. My aim is simple - to see children and young people succeed, achieve, and grow in confidence.

Sam Gibbs

Principal

BA (Hons), PGCE, QTS, MCCT

PERFORMERS' SERVICES

'Musical Theatre'

Acting - acting classes aim to build skills in improvisation, script work, voice technique, character building and imagination

Dance - musical theatre based focusing on movement, core stability, technique, posture, and co-ordination

'Singing'

Classes focus on breath control, strength, range as well as musical interpretation and are conducted in small groups

'Full-scale productions'

Sessions will focus on the current Performers production - production rehearsals last for up to 6 months and conclude with a show run (up to 5 days).

'Show visits'

Yearly trips to popular West End and/or professional shows take place allowing for members to come together and experience world-class performances that will inspire and motivate them

'Master classes, workshops and summer schools'

Regular master classes and workshops are conducted by industry professionals throughout the year to enhance member's performance techniques in acting, dancing, and singing. Week long summer schools are carried out during the summer holiday period and finish with a short well-known production.

'After School Clubs'

Performers can extend the school day at local infant, junior and senior schools by being hired to conduct exciting classes and workshops that enhance children's performing arts skills

'Talent Agency'

Performers can sign children and find them amateur and professional work. Jobs may include commercials, extra work, theatre, film and television or voice work among other opportunities.

'1:1 Tuition'

1:1 tuition can be arranged privately with one of our highly skilled teachers in either acting, dance or singing. Prices range from £20-£35 per hour.

The principal also offers private tuition for KS1/KS2/KS3 learning across all areas of the National Curriculum.

AIMS

At Performers Theatre Company, our aims are:

- To enhance the education and experiences of young people aged 5-18 in the performing arts
- To offer our children at least one performing opportunity throughout the academic year
- To give our young people the chance to work with industry professionals through workshops and masterclasses
- To allow children and young people to participate in activities that are within their own age group
- To always ensure that classes and workshops are exemplary and give children the very best performing arts opportunities
- To allow those who are not enrolled in Performers' classes the chance to partake in performing arts opportunities via an audition
- To build a large network of young people from across the local and wider community allowing talent, expertise, and specialisms to be shared creatively and imaginatively
- To create an exciting, engaging, and positive environment where children and young people can thrive academically, socially, and mentally

PERFORMERS' CLASSES

Performers' classes take place out of Park Community School in Havant on Saturdays and The Henry Cort Community College from September 2023. Other premises **may** be used for additional classes or rehearsals if required.

Currently, Performers Theatre Company comprises of **Infants**, **Juniors**, and **Seniors**. Infants consist of children from Years R, 1 and 2. Juniors consists of children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Seniors consists of young people from Years 7 through to 13.

PRODUCTIONS

The Principal oversees the choice of each formal production and its director. Casting is the responsibility of the production director and Principal.

All children participating in any Performers' production are expected to sell a **minimum of 5 tickets per production** and **supply their own jazz shoes**.

ATTENDANCE

Once enrolled in a Performers' class, children are expected to attend every class. If more than three consecutive weeks have elapsed without notifying the company, it will be assumed that the child has left the company and will be removed from enrolment. Formal notification of absence must not be made through another pupil or parent. It is important that if a child is unable to attend a class, Performers is contacted as soon as possible.

BEHAVIOUR

Behaviour at Performers Theatre Company should be exemplary. All children and young people have a responsibility to behave appropriately in classes, workshops, rehearsals, and productions as well as showing respect towards staff, the company values, venue, equipment, and general surroundings. All children who enrol at Performers are expected to read and sign the *Performers' Code of Conduct*. If any young person fails to comply with the expectations set out by the Performers Theatre Company, they will be unenrolled.

CARING FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Performers Theatre Company will act in 'loco parentis' towards everyone under the age of 18. This means that all staff, volunteers, and adults at Performers will undertake the responsibility and care that would be expected of 'a reasonable parent'. At events where there are large numbers of young people in our care, a team of chaperones will be put in place. Safety is of paramount importance at any of our classes, workshops, events etc. All children and young people will be expected to act in a responsible way (in line with the Code of Conduct) and abide by all safety regulations and procedures that are in place. Photographs and other images of our children are carefully controlled by Performers. In line with GDPR, Performers will only take photographs/videos if given consent by a parent/guardian. All adults working at Performers are DBS checked.

FEES

Fees at Performers Theatre Company vary dependant on the class being enrolled in. Below are our fees **from April 2023**. Fees are to be made monthly. This ensures that pupils attend consistently and to allow the smooth running of the company. ***First sessions for new pupils are free trials to ensure pupils can experience Performers without committing to a monthly fee.***

Current classes (2023-present)

Musical Theatre (1 hr 30 mins) - £32pm (£20 for Infants)
-45 mins acting

-45 mins dancing

Singing (30 mins) - £26pm

Production rehearsals* (length varies) - £8 per session

**As the production draws nearer, an intense rehearsal schedule will be put in place. We kindly ask for a £40 voluntary contribution to support the running of this rehearsal schedule and the production.*

All fees payable to Performers are non-refundable.

HOW TO JOIN

Enrolment of a child is based on availability within classes. Class sizes vary from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 28. If classes are full, you will be placed on a waiting list; Performers will get in touch as soon as a place becomes available.

To enrol, you can choose one of the following options:

- Visit us in person at one of our premises where a member of the team will be happy to show you a live class, discuss our classes, expectations, vision and aims and help you through the enrolment process;
- Call us where a member of the team will be happy to discuss classes, expectations, our vision and aims and help you through the enrolment process. You can then email your completed enrolment form to admin@performerstheatrecompany.com or hand it in in person.

UNIFORM

All children at Performers Theatre Company must wear Performers' uniform when in classes, rehearsals and on trips. It is important that staff can identify children instantly for health and safety reasons. We also have regular visitors including industry professionals and agencies, so it is vital children give off their best 'first impression'. Any child who does not come to class wearing the appropriate uniform will be sent home as it presents a safeguarding risk.

Compulsory

Navy Blue Performers' polo shirt

Plain black/navy blue leggings, tracksuit bottoms (no logo/markings) or plain black/navy blue shorts

Plain black jazz shoes or barefoot

Plain black leotards are acceptable

Optional

Navy Performers' sweatshirt or zip-up hoodie (during winter months)