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Theatre for Every Child

Spotlight on theatre initiatives



THEATRE FOR EVERY CHILD



The Campaign

Every child has the right to experience and enjoy our country's culture and world-leading theatre, so we will be asking political parties to commit to providing funding and support for our aim in their general election manifestos – that every child goes to the theatre by the time they leave school.



In 2019/20 only 26% of 5-10 years old and 54% of 11-15 year olds engaged in theatre and drama activities. For 11-15 year olds, only 25% engaged in theatre and drama 'outside of school'⁽¹⁾



A recent report from the Sutton Trust states that since last year "reports of cuts to trips and outings have more than doubled, now standing at 50%, up from 21% – a proportion that is even higher in schools with the most disadvantaged intakes, at 68%, compared to 44% in the least deprived schools"⁽²⁾.



Theatre is a key component of the broader creative industries which, prior to Covid, contributed £116bn in Gross Value Added (GVA)⁽³⁾. Our research indicates that the theatre industry alone generates £2.39bn GVA and supports 205,000 workers and for every £1 spent on a theatre ticket, an additional spend of £1.40 is generated in local economies⁽⁴⁾.



We know children's engagement in theatre has significant benefits; for them it improves educational attainment, builds empathy and promotes wellbeing, for the theatre sector it helps to build talent pipelines and for communities and for society, it supports economic growth.

(1) <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/taking-part-201920-annual-child-release/arts-taking-part-survey-201920>

(2) <https://www.suttontrust.com/news-opinion/all-news-opinion/cost-of-living-crisis-hits-school-spending/>

(3) <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dcms-economic-estimates-2019-gross-value-added/dcms-economic-estimates-2019-provisional-gross-value-added>

(4) Economic Impact Assessment of UK Theatre Sector, Sound Diplomacy, June 2023.

As a minimum benchmark, our Theatre for Every Child campaign asks for a manifesto commitment to pledge that all children have the chance to see a professional theatre production before they leave school. SOLT & UK Theatre stand ready to work with the government to develop and implement this pledge.

You can read the full Policy Briefing at TheatreForEveryChild.org

This document provides a snapshot of the work done by the theatre sector to encourage and subsidise children's access to theatre. 82 examples are provided, collated after a call out to members to demonstrate the work that they do. This is not a complete picture of all the programmes to develop young peoples' engagement in theatre but is illustrative of the scale and breadth of current initiatives. If you would like to republish any of the information or would like to know more, please contact TheatreForEveryChild@soltukt.co.uk.

Front cover image references:

Top left: Ambassador Theatre Group, Top central: Old Vic - Cesare De Giglio, Top right: Kings Theatre Glasgow

Middle left: Hall For Cornwall - Hugh Hastings, Middle central: Stars of Macbeth visit schools - Andrew Teebay Liverpool Echo, Middle right: British Youth Music Theatre Harry & Greta

Bottom left: National Theatre Scotland 'Like Flying' - Tim Morozzo, Bottom central: Bradford Theatre, Bottom right: RSC Connected Associates School Symposium

Theatre Highlights

You can find longer case studies on our website, TheatreForEveryChild.org including:

- [What theatre gave me – a story by Fozia Nisar](#)
- [The Value of School Theatre Trips: The first step on a pathway for young people.](#)
By Susan Whiddington, Chief Executive, Go Live Theatre Projects
- [Theatre: The complete educational experience, as told by a teacher.](#)
By Karen Thompson
- [Every child deserves the opportunity to participate.](#)
By Dame Rosemary Squire

Almeida Theatre

- 'Almeida For Free' was launched in 2017. Through the scheme, a performance from every production is offered for free to anyone aged 25 and under.
- In 2023, over 3,000 young people have seen an Almeida show for free.
- A further 1,500 young people have accessed free workshops, panel discussions and events.

Almeida.co.uk

Ambassador Theatre Group

- The Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG) is committed to investing in the next generation of the theatre workforce. They do this through local and national initiatives that engage young people in digital and in-person programmes. They have achieved over 100,000 digital impressions internationally, reached 4000 individual participants and supported over 250 regional and London based artists.
- One programme that highlights this is the UK-wide WORK IN THEATRE - an Arts Council England funded programme rooted in improving access to theatre careers for underprivileged and under-represented young people. The programme provides opportunities for 15 regions, ten Arts Council Priority Places and 21 Levelling Up areas.
- UK-wide, co-created community and youth provision also supports students, community organisations and those underrepresented in the arts. These include:
 - Community choirs.

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision, including increasing the take-up of relaxed performances by 196%.
- Large-scale events and performances such as GLOBEfest, a 700 member community-led celebration in Stockton-on-Tees and the Regent Theatre's 0 Dance Festival, which brings over 700 performers together from across Staffordshire and the North West.
- The distribution of over 10,000 free or subsidised tickets to local schools, community organisations and youth settings.

In the West End:

- Over a 12-month period, ATG offered over 5000 tickets priced at £10 or less for several of its shows. Over 1800 of these were free. Eligible productions included Seagull, Lyonesse, Wicked, My Sons a Queer (But what can you do?), Vanya, Backstairs Billy, GOOD, Lion King and A Streetcar Named Desire. These tickets were snapped up by community organisations, youth charities, schools, and alternative educational providers. They were also used to reach people who don't see theatre as a space for them, helping to transform them into autonomous theatre goers.
- ATG's Schools Partner programme support six schools across London. Its year-round support helps to engage approximately 1170 students and 24 teachers.
- The large-scale technical event, Get Technical, opened up the Piccadilly Theatre to 750 young people giving them an insight into offstage and backstage careers.
- The West End in Tottenham programme takes the West End into Tottenham and wider Haringey, supporting young people in accessing free arts outreach on their doorstep. 100 hyper-targeted young people engaged with this programme.
- The UK Theatre award-winning technical theatre programme, Change the Script, supports those in long-term unemployment to gain technical training and paid placements in backstage and offstage roles.
- ATG also engages young people and community groups from across zones 1-6 in London, prioritising areas of low arts engagement. This involves close partnership-working with councils including Waltham Forest, Camden, Westminster, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Haringey.

[ATGtickets.com](https://atgtickets.com)

Alexandra Palace

- The Alexandra Palace Young Creative Network is a group for local 16–28-year-olds with limited income. Members of the network can access £10 tickets for A Christmas Carol in the first week of January.
- The theatre offers a discounted rate of £20.50 for schools for selected performances during term time.

- Two Wardrobe Assistants working at the theatre were recruited via a pathway for applicants who may not otherwise have found their way into the business.

[AlexandraPalace.com](https://alexandrapalace.com)

Aylesbury Waterside Theatre

- This year, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre welcomed 132 young people, aged 13 – 17, for a variety of technical theatre insight workshops.
- They were able to learn terminology, gain practical experience in lighting, sound, stage management, flying, set and prop construction, and take part in a full technical theatre tour.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/aylesbury-waterside-theatre](https://atgtickets.com/venues/aylesbury-waterside-theatre)

Bradford Theatres (The Alhambra Theatre and St George's Hall)

- Bradford Theatres offers free tickets to students with English as a second or other language, through its partnership with Bradford College.
- The theatres offer free venue tours and workshops for under 5s and local schools.
- Bradford Theatres is also a participant of the RSC Associate Schools programme.
- The organisation offers heritage tours and workshops for schools as part of its 'Heritage Centrestage' programme, funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

[Bradford-Theatres.co.uk](https://bradford-theatres.co.uk) & [StGeorgesHallHeritage-Bradford.co.uk](https://stgeorgesHallHeritage-Bradford.co.uk)

Bristol Hippodrome

- In 2023, the Bristol Hippodrome opened-up access to the theatre by:
 - Offering £10 subsidised tickets to 1200+ students, in partnership with Disney's The Lion King and its 'Our First Show Scheme', which supports cultural engagement by giving school pupils, who may not otherwise be able, the chance to experience a live theatre production.
 - Engaging 80 young people projects during half term weeks.
 - Providing two bursary placements, which include tickets to see touring productions.
 - Giving 330 students tours of the theatre during term time.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/bristol-hippodrome](https://atgtickets.com/venues/bristol-hippodrome)

British Youth Music Theatre

- British Youth Music Theatre is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) and National Youth Music Organisation (NYMO).
- Funded by Arts Council England and the Department for Education, they work with 11-21 years olds across the UK.
- In the 2023 season:
 - 974 young people engaged with the organisation and its activities.
 - 477 took part in residential theatre projects creating new music theatre.
 - Access increased through outreach in schools, with bursaries and free places offered to participants.
 - 55% benefited from financial support.
 - 33% of participants were from underrepresented groups (global majority, disabled, neuro-divergent, non-binary).
 - 74% of participants progressed into performing, training and other creative careers.

BritishYouthMusicTheatre.org

Bristol Old Vic

- Since 1 January 2023, Bristol Old Vic has:
 - Undertaken 15,222 engagements with over 5,000 individuals aged between 2 and 87, in over 40 projects.
 - Delivered over 20,000 hours of engagement time with participants.
 - Undertaken 70 sessions in 19 schools for 1,661 students.
 - Distributed over 4,500 free tickets to communities and schools across Bristol that wouldn't otherwise have been able to attend.

BristolOldVic.org.uk

Bush Theatre

- The Bush Theatre offers:
 - Free tickets to local school pupils through their Schools' Projects. Last year, 67% of respondents engaging in a Schools' Project had never been to the Bush Theatre before. 61% of teachers reported that their students would not have been able to buy a ticket themselves.
 - Theatre-making and creative skills workshops, delivered in educational and out-of-school settings.
 - Weekly workshops on theatre-making skills, including theatre trips with the Bush Theatre's two Young Companies.

BushTheatre.co.uk/young-people

Capital Theatres

- Capital Theatres offers:
 - Free relaxed performances.
 - 5,000 free tickets to groups that have financial barriers to attendance, such as schools and refugee groups.
 - £10 tickets for young people aged 25 and under.
 - School workshops, as part of the Discovering Creativity 2022/23 workshop, tour and relaxed performance series. Through this work, Capital Theatres engaged with 8,775 participants.

[CapitalTheatres.com](https://www.CapitalTheatres.com)

Chichester Festival Theatre

- Chichester Festival Theatre increases access to theatre in multiple ways:
 - Over 70,000 people take part in its community activities and events annually.
 - Its youth theatre has a membership of over 920 local young people. Every year, the theatre offers 6,350 prologue tickets, at £5 each, to young people aged 16-30 years.
 - Eight apprentices and trainees are supported by the theatre each year.
 - Chichester Festival Theatre operates a year-round schools' engagement programme.

[CFT.org.uk](https://www.CFT.org.uk)

Chipping Norton Theatre

- In 2022-23, Chipping Norton Theatre provided:
 - 970 art packs to kids from low-income families.
 - 9000 free lunches for local families.
 - 45 free holiday workshop places for children entitled to free school meals.
 - The theatre also offers free school meals and cultural programmes during holidays and drama-led mental health workshops in schools.

[ChippingNortonTheatre.com](https://www.ChippingNortonTheatre.com)

Crossroads Live and Crossroads Pantomimes

- Crossroads Pantomimes offers:
 - Reduced price tickets for schools to all performances across its 24 UK pantomimes. In 2022-23 this equated to 1,078 school parties and 120,000 bookers.

- Discounted opportunities for social and uniform groups, reaching 6,131 groups in the previous year.
- Specially adapted Relaxed Performances across its regional pantomimes, welcoming 20,000 people each year.
- Creative Learning opportunities through the creation of a curriculum-linked education pack for all venues.
- Ad-hoc support offered to venue-led initiatives, such as cast engagement in workshops.
- The Crossroads Live tours of Annie, The Bodyguard, 42nd Street and Jesus Christ Superstar, offered:
 - Reduced priced tickets for schools and youth groups, with nearly 70,000 tickets provided in 2023.
 - Reduced price tickets for 16–25-year-olds to encourage theatregoing.
 - Creative learning opportunities through the production of curriculum-guided education packs, made available via regional venues.
 - Ad-hoc support for venue-led initiatives, such as cast engagement in workshops.

[Xroadslive.com](https://xroadslive.com) & [Pantomime.com](https://pantomime.com)

Curve

- In 2022/23, Curve supported 21,000 young participants to engage in workshops, classes, performances, backstage tours and with work experience placements.
- Through its Neighbour-Hubs initiative it has established creative partnerships with schools and community organisations across five areas of Leicester.
- In the last year, there were more than 3,700 instances of people taking part in either free or low-cost activities, ensuring cost is not a barrier to engagement.
- Curve works with local schools, offering free learning resources and teacher training and free or low-cost workshops.
- It provides free tickets to 'Made at Curve' performances for students based in Neighbour-Hub areas. It also offers discounts to school groups on all shows - with 250 school bookings being made each year at Curve. Similarly, Curve offers £1 Public Dress Rehearsals tickets for Made at Curve productions and £10 tickets for every show performed at the venue.
- And to ensure theatre is open to everyone, Curve provided 81 accessible performances including Captioned, Audio Described, Touch Tours, BSL, Relaxed and Dementia Friendly performances in 2022/23.

CurveOnline.co.uk

Dance Consortium

- Dance Consortium runs an annual programme called Future Leaders, giving young people aged 19-26 an opportunity to visit large-scale regional theatres and learn about what goes on behind the scenes. Half of the places are offered to young people from underrepresented backgrounds, who may experience barriers to becoming part of the UK's theatre workforce.
- Participants take part in sessions led by a range of professionals working in venues, helping them to gain a deeper understanding of the roles available in the theatre and touring sectors.
- Designed to flex around work and study commitments, the programme is run by a group of 19 UK regional theatres and includes insight visits at two theatres.
- Future Leaders is free, and travel and accommodation costs are covered.
- Participants also receive mentoring and access to networking opportunities, alongside its international large-scale dance tours. This includes the upcoming tour from the São Paulo Dance Company in spring 2024.

DanceConsortium.com

Delfont Mackintosh Theatres

- Delfont Mackintosh Theatres delivers outreach work in schools and offers workshops and reduced tickets to special performances.
- In its workshops, games, improvisation and scene building are used to give students an insight into the show they are about to see, and a rounded experience of the West End. Pupils also work on teambuilding, communication and building confidence and leadership skills.
- It also hosts events for children with high levels of need, using theatre to reengage them.
- To open-up access to careers in the theatre, the organisation attends job fairs recommended by Jobcentre Plus.

DelfontMackintosh.co.uk

DEM Productions

- For its production of *The Book Thief*, DEM Productions worked with Curve, in Leicester, to develop a bespoke education and workshop pack that was shared with schools across the Midlands. Across the two-week run, 16 schools and 738 young people attended.
- For *A Sherlock Carol*, DEM Productions partnered with charities The Felix Project and Centrepont for a second year. Last year it raised nearly £17,000, and this year DEM

Productions is on track to surpass that - raising over £3,700 in less than 2 weeks. The company also provides free tickets for the charity Crisis.

- Previous ticket initiatives include £5 tickets for young people for the 2022 run of TRAPLORD.
- For all its major shows, DEM Productions prioritises the inclusion of captioned and/or BSL interpreted performances. For RIDE, it also provided Parent and Baby performances.
- Its work with Golden Toad Theatre has also helped to make theatre accessible for young children ages 3-11 by taking shows into 15 school halls and local libraries across two years of touring.

DEMProductions.co.uk

Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society

- The Fringe Days Out programme provides disadvantaged schools and communities across Edinburgh with the opportunity to see work at the Fringe. An estimated 10,000 tickets have been issued since 2017.
- Fringe artists donate tickets for Edinburgh communities, and 1200 shows took part in this scheme in 2023.
- The Fringe in Schools project sees a Fringe artist work in-residency at an Additional Support Needs (ASN) school, culminating in a performance.
- The Primary Performers programme involves three primary schools creating their own mini-Fringe performances.

EdFringe.com

Edinburgh Playhouse

- Edinburgh Playhouse recently launched its teachers' theatre club, which has 350 teacher members from as far afield as the east coast and borders of Scotland. This club helps create a connection with around 10,500 children in Scotland and a route for providing arts opportunities to both pupils and teachers.
- The reaction to the launch of the teacher's theatre club on social media was positive, with 117 likes, 150 shares and 261 comments and tags. Feedback included:
 - "What a great idea, I love that the playhouse is opening its doors to pupils and teachers. What a great way to connect to theatre".
 - "I'm glad that lots of teachers are interested in bringing the magic of theatre to children that they teach."
 - "Really delighted to see this come to fruition."
- The theatre also worked in partnership with Disney Theatrical Productions to offer pupils from deprived backgrounds reduced priced tickets to enable them to see their 'First Show' - the touring production of Aladdin.

- The theatre also provided CPD opportunities for teachers in Scotland across venues in Edinburgh and Glasgow. Over 35 teachers attended these events, taking this new learning back to approximately 1000 pupils.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/edinburgh-playhouse/](https://atgtickets.com/venues/edinburgh-playhouse/)

Eleanor Lloyd Productions - Emilia at the Vaudeville Theatre

- The run of Emilia at the Vaudeville Theatre in London's West End (2019) was accompanied by an outreach programme that offered free and discounted tickets to young people and schools.
- The ticket offer was also available to women from the Global Majority - a group that connected with the content of the show.
- Detailed education packs were provided.
- Feedback from groups, who would not usually attend the theatre, was overwhelmingly positive, with one school pupil saying, "I felt that right in the heart."

[Elproductions.co.uk/our-productions/emilia](https://elproductions.co.uk/our-productions/emilia)

Empire Street Productions - James Bierman

- For recent shows, Prima Facie, starring Jodie Comer, and The Pillowman, starring Lily Allen, Empire Street Productions worked with a number of charities and offered a Pay What You Can scheme, with ticket prices starting from £1.

[EmpireStreetProductions.com/the-things-that-matter-to-us/](https://empirestreetproductions.com/the-things-that-matter-to-us/)

English National Ballet - Akram Khan's Giselle

- Autumn 2023 saw English National Ballet (ENB) collaborate with its North West performance venue partner, Ambassadors Theatre Group, to deliver a high-quality creative learning project across Greater Manchester and Liverpool, with a particular focus on Priority Places.
- Through this three-month project, Akram Khan's Giselle Ballet Explored, key stage three and four pupils were given the opportunity to engage in production and dance career workshops, attend a live performance and continue their learning with extensive digital resources.
- ENB strives to provide a broad, high-quality, and accessible offer for children and young people. In 2022/23, nearly 2000 children and young people (0-19 years) took part in learning and participation activities with ENB.

- In addition, 10,000 children and young people attended ENB performances in 2022/23 at a concessionary or discounted rate.

[Ballet.org.uk/project/ballet-explored](https://ballet.org.uk/project/ballet-explored)

English Youth Ballet

- English Youth Ballet performs classical ballet in theatres across the UK.
- For the last 25 years, the company has invited school groups to visit local theatres for dress rehearsals of their latest full-length classical ballets.
- English Youth Ballet emphasises the stories and dramatic content of ballet so that acting, movement and mime makes balletic stories understood.

EnglishYouthBallet.co.uk

Frantic Assembly

- Each year, Frantic Assembly engages with over 10,000 UK pupils (aged 14 - 18) through schools' workshops in the 'Frantic Method' of devising and physicality.
- Now in its 15th year, Ignition is Frantic Assembly's free-to-access talent development initiative for young people aged 16 - 24 from areas of low arts engagement. In 2023, working with 12 regional partners, the company introduced over 895 young people to the potential of a career in the arts. It culminated with 24 'graduates' creating a new show over five days.
- There are now in excess of 200 Ignition alumni, many of whom are working professionally in the creative industries. This includes five young people who worked on the company's recent production of Othello, and six on its current production of Metamorphosis.
- A third of the practitioners delivering Frantic workshops across the world are Ignition graduates. The programme is currently unfunded.

FranticAssembly.co.uk

Grand Opera House York

- The venue's Summer Theatre Club offers 60 places for local students under 16 who predominantly face barriers accessing culture. Participants get the opportunity to engage in workshops on everything from technical to the performing arts.
- Through its outreach work, 40 places are provided for two outreach workshops in August, funded through the local authority. These include upcoming sessions on 29 December 2023 and 15 February 2024.

- Educational partnerships are created, working with local primary schools through to regional universities to offer show-specific learning opportunities and discounted tickets.
- This year the Grand Opera House has worked with six productions to engage over 2000 students with additional offers, including workshops and talks.
- Scratch nights support local artists and theatre groups, giving them an opportunity to platform their work onstage. The first scratch night explored queer and neurodivergent performances, with the second showcasing female-led narratives.
- Storytime is offered for the under 5's and their grown-ups, with a monthly class offering 15 pre-school children the chance to experience a unique story full of interaction and making. Storytime promotes early learning and builds confidence and communication skills.
- In addition, Trailblazers York works with Converge, a partnership between York St John University and mental health service providers, to run eight workshops for adults at the Grand Opera House York, and a sharing event in Spring 2024. This work is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Make It York.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/grand-opera-house-york](https://atgtickets.com/venues/grand-opera-house-york)

Hall for Cornwall

- Beyond the picture-postcard images of Cornwall lie pockets of deprivation where families and children are living in poverty. And while growing up in a rural setting can be idyllic, the isolation can present challenges.
- Hall for Cornwall, based in Truro, is the county's only large indoor theatre and takes its commitment to supporting culture in Cornwall seriously. It offers a diverse programme and, thanks to additional financial support, can offer free tickets for targeted groups for some productions.
- Support from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund has reinvigorated the Community Club, which focuses on young people and hard-to-reach groups within isolated communities. The current iteration of the Community Club has supported over 3000 people to visit the theatre for the first time, including several schools.
- This year, Hall for Cornwall, through its Get Creative team, aims to introduce 5000 under sevens to their first live theatre experience and deliver sessions for 10,000 children through its Youth Theatre programme.
- In addition, Hall for Cornwall provides the following opportunities for children and young people:
 - Every two years 20 schools are recruited to the Hall for Cornwall Schools Partnership. Schools are able to access in-school workshops, teacher CPD and support with creative curriculum development.
 - Each year, 15 schools are offered the opportunity to join the venue's Associate Schools Partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC).

- A Secondary Schools Platform event is hosted each year, giving pupils from across 12 schools the opportunity to showcase their dance and drama work.
- The Ticket Bank initiative also allows audiences to donate tickets to people that wouldn't otherwise be able to attend.
- To date, Hall for Cornwall has given 2000 under-16s a free theatre experience in the venue and engaged a further 8000 in their own settings.

HallForCornwall.co.uk

HOME

- HOME, based in Manchester, offers:
 - A £1 ticket scheme for young people and communities.
 - An in-house schools and colleges programme spanning theatre, film and the visual arts.
 - Work-based training opportunities for schools and colleges and CPD for teachers.
 - Arts-based programmes in school settings.
 - A community development programme called Home from Home, working in a collaborative way in community settings.

HOMEmc.org

Hull Truck Theatre

- For all of its own productions, Hull Truck Theatre offers a 'pay what you can' performance. Demand is high and performances always sell out. The company regularly hears from audience members who wouldn't be able to attend the theatre without those discounts.
- Hull Truck Theatre also works in two areas of the city with high levels of deprivation and low arts attendance. A project worker helps to break down barriers to attendance and find ways to engage communities with the theatre. Attendance from within these communities has increased to 6%.
- The company offers bursaries and free places to all youth theatre classes. This includes providing transport for one young participant who lives in a hostel.
- In addition, its Give the Gift of Theatre annual fundraising campaign increases access to the theatre by providing free tickets to school children in Hull, and subsidising tickets for community groups with low levels of arts engagement.

HullTruck.co.uk

Imagine Theatre

- As producers of pantomime and children's theatre, Imagine Theatre helps children to access its productions through school trips and discounted tickets.
- It ensures affordability by providing a variety of prices across its productions.
- Imagine Theatre recognises its role in encouraging young people not only to go to the theatre, but also to appear in it. Through its auditions, children with little or no previous experience of professional theatre are given opportunity to appear as junior ensembles in productions.
- Education resources for teachers are provided to support visits to the pantomime.
- The company also works with individual venues to programme outreach activity.

[ImagineTheatre.co.uk](https://www.imagine-theatre.co.uk)

Kenny Wax Productions

- Kenny Wax Productions is an independent theatrical production company, with shows playing in the West End and on tour in the UK and internationally.
- For The Play That Goes Wrong with Mischief Theatre, the offer for young people includes:
 - Reduced tickets and free teacher places for school group bookings.
 - An annual Go Live Theatre Project, PLAY XRAY.
 - Working with Society of London Theatre, Henry Shields has written, and the show's cast will perform, a comedy video for schools to show pupils what to expect when attending the theatre for the first time.
 - Go Live Theatre Projects All Schools Matinee Performance in June 2023.
 - Additional School Summer midweek matinee in July 2024.
 - Additional outreach work for children includes a charity partnership with 'Spread A Smile' bringing the show into hospitals via a zoom on stage demonstration, and tickets for families throughout May 2023 in London.
- For Peter Pan Goes Wrong with Mischief Theatre:
 - Reduced tickets and free teacher places for school group bookings.
 - Ongoing partnership to fundraise and work with Great Ormond Street Hospital
 - Charity Partnership with 'Spread A Smile' offering discounted tickets for families during the 2023 UK Tour in Nottingham.
- For Unbelievable:
 - £10 tickets for Go Live Theatre projects across several performances.
 - Kids Out Charity performance, with Q&A after the show.
 - Kids Out Charity: FOC tickets across several performances.
 - Super Sundays: Kids go free initiative on Sundays.
- For We're Going On A Bear Hunt:
 - Held two schools only performances at Woolwich Works.

- Offered a family ticket and schools discounts available at most venues on the tour.
 - Will be live-streaming a performance of the show into local children's hospitals.
- For Fantastically Great Woman Who Changed The World:
 - Family tickets and school rates available at most venues on the tour.
 - Worked with local charities at each venue, where there was availability, to give free tickets to children and families who would otherwise not be able to go to the theatre.

KennyWax.com

The King's Theatre and Theatre Royal Glasgow

- In 2022 and 2023, 20 schools from Glasgow's most disadvantaged areas became Panto Partners, an initiative designed to widen access and tackle barriers to young people experiencing live theatre.
- The programme was funded by local sponsor Aliter Capital, supported by Crossroads producers, and reached 1,772 school pupils.
- Developing the Young Workforce is a national initiative to help students prepare for the world of work. The King's Theatre and Theatre Royal Glasgow contributed to this by delivering Theatre Industry Days, placements, Work in Theatre (a UK wide programme to promote creative careers), and WorkAware@S3, for pupils at risk of disengaging from education. Over 1100 pupils participated in this programme.

ATGtickets.com/venues/kings-theatre-glasgow

Kiln Theatre

- Kiln Theatre aims to support underrepresented communities to become theatre makers and/or lifelong audience members. It does this by providing a range of projects for children, young people and adults that are free for participants or paid at the London Living Wage.
- Kiln Theatre's Youth and Pathways programme, for 12-21 year olds, includes a youth theatre, a young company and Kiln Collaborators – a trainee facilitator and leadership programme.
- The programme also includes Fullworks - a work experience project and series of higher education placements. 70% of participants on the 2022/23 trainee and placement projects have been employed by Kiln Theatre, or other theatres, since taking part.
- Minding the Gap is a year-long performance and film making programme for young people with experience of migration, taking place in conjunction with English as an Additional Language (EAL) and English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL)

departments at three local schools and three colleges. All participants have been employed by Kiln Theatre since participating.

- Kiln Theatre participates in a year-long residency in two local secondary schools. The residency supports drama teaching, encourages study that is representative of local communities and provides bridges for young people into the industry.
- Schools are also supported with backstage workshops, teacher CPD and a free ticket offer for every Brent school.
- Members of the local community can participate in a range of activities and take advantage of ticket offers, including monthly masterclasses, behind-the-scenes tours and Kiln Community Collaborators – a trainee facilitation and leadership programme for local residents. All 2022/23 participants have been offered employment by Kiln Theatre, or other external organisations, since participating.

KilnTheatre.com

Leeds Playhouse

- Leeds Playhouse works creatively with over 15,000 people, artists and communities of Leeds every year, through their innovative sector-leading Playhouse Connect programme. Playhouse Connect engages with thousands of people in the region each year and includes:
 - An artistic development programme, Furnace, for working theatre-makers, providing them with a creative space to refine their practice at all stages of their careers.
 - Building, developing and sustaining projects to connect with refugee communities, young people and students, older people and people with learning disabilities.
 - Handing over spaces to communities to use in ways they choose - from breakdancing to roller-skating, craft markets to tea parties - enlivening the building whilst fostering deeper relationships.
 - Working in residence around the Leeds area, connecting with people on their doorsteps.
- Through this work, as well as aiming to give the joy of theatre to every person in the city, Leeds Playhouse also support the wellbeing of local communities - from providing safe spaces (as a registered warm space with a 'pay it forward' kindness coffee scheme) to working with GP surgeries.

LeedsPlayhouse.org.uk

Les Enfants Terribles

- Theatre company, Les Enfants Terribles, has developed The Curiosity Index - a free resource hub for schools that includes behind-the-scenes content and teaching resources. Last year, it was accessed by over 3,000 people.
- The company offers discounts to schools across all its shows. For the current production, The House With Chicken Legs, at the Southbank Centre, tickets for schools are available at £10. Over 2000 tickets have been sold to schools at this discounted rate across the recent tour.
- In addition, post-show Q&As with the cast and creative team of its productions are available to schools, students and young people.
- During the tour of The House With Chicken Legs, Les Enfants Terribles partnered with the charity Theatreworks to help fund school trips for schools where high numbers of pupils receive Free Schools Meals.
- Les Enfants Terribles provides in-school workshops on a range of drama techniques – everything from Found Puppetry and Devising to Immersive Theatre.

LesEnfantsTerribles.co.uk

Liverpool Empire and Manchester Palace Theatre

- In partnership with English National Ballet (ENB), 175 students attended a matinee performance of Akram Khan's Giselle as well as sharing a final performance as part of the project.
- Ballet Explored raises the aspirations of young people, boosts the choreographic skills of KS3-KS5 teachers, develops creative thinking and connects students to roles in the creative industries. It also provides an opportunity for young people to work with ENB professional artists, watch a professional production at the Manchester Palace Theatre and perform at the Liverpool Empire Theatre. Teachers from each school will attend teacher CPD and be provided with educational resources.
- In 2022–23, the Liverpool Empire and Manchester Palace Theatre marketing team worked with visiting producers to distribute over 2000 free or subsidised tickets for several productions at the Liverpool Empire Theatre. A targeted approach was taken to ensure that tickets were distributed based on clear criteria:
 - To schools that are situated in areas of high deprivation or have high pupil premium numbers.
 - To youth theatres, enabling young people and their families to see live theatre productions.
 - Priority was given to first-time theatre goers and those who face barriers to engagement, including those from the global majority.
- At the Manchester Palace Theatre, 120 young people attended the press night of Hamilton for free, as part of the theatre's Creative Learning programme. These tickets

were distributed to targeted groups from across communities and to emerging artists in Manchester who would otherwise be unable to attend.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/liverpool-empire](https://atgtickets.com/venues/liverpool-empire) &
[ATGtickets.com/venues/palace-theatre-manchester](https://atgtickets.com/venues/palace-theatre-manchester)

Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse

- The Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse develop the creative workforce of the future through its Young Everyman Playhouse programme (YEP), aimed at 14–25-year-olds.
- More than a youth theatre, it's a ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary talent development programme encompassing all aspects of theatre-making and is aimed at creating a more inclusive and diverse industry. Membership of the YEP also includes access to tickets priced at £5.
- The theatres have provided opportunities and seen members of its YEP go onto other professional opportunities:
 - Recently, the Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse staged plays by two graduate writers.
 - Six actors have been in shows, including one who took a lead in Frantic Assembly's Metamorphosis.
 - Other participants are working in UK theatres, forming their own companies, writing for hit television shows and appearing in Hollywood movies.

EverymanPlayhouse.com/whats-more/young-everyman-playhouse

The Lord Chamberlain's Men

- The Lord Chamberlain's Men are working in partnership with The Broadway Theatre in Catford to offer every school child between the ages of 11 and 18, in the borough of Lewisham, a free ticket to their production of Hamlet taking place in September 2024.
- The production will tour the UK and mainland Europe in summer 2024 and will play at The Broadway Theatre in Catford for four performances in September.

TLCM.co.uk

Lyric Hammersmith

- Through its partnership with the council, the Lyric Hammersmith is able to offer people who live or work in Hammersmith and Fulham two free tickets to the first night of all main house Lyric productions. The offer extends to four free tickets for Lyric pantomimes and supports local families who otherwise would not have the chance to see a production of this scale during the festive season.

- To support schools, colleges and universities, the Lyric offers a discounted rate on tickets for all mid-week main house shows. Tickets are offered at £15 per student with free teacher tickets available as part of group bookings.
- Thanks to the support of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, schools in the borough are offered free tickets to Lyric's annual panto. This year for Cinderella, the Lyric gave away 2000 free tickets to local state schools.
- Young Lyric membership is also available to young people up to age 25 and resident in West London boroughs. Membership benefits include £5 tickets to main house shows, access to free or low-cost courses and masterclasses, access to free bursary spaces for classes and other performance opportunities.

[Lyric.co.uk](https://www.lyric.co.uk)

Mayflower Theatre & MAST Mayflower Studios

- The Mayflower Theatre and MAST Mayflower Studios have a large participation offer for schools, youth, and community groups. This work is linked to their diverse programme and includes a range of ticket initiatives that provide access to productions. These include:
 - Mayflower Student Nights.
 - Youth Ticket offers.
 - Discounted tickets for Schools above national average FSM.
 - Community First Nights.
- The Mayflower Theatre and MAST Mayflower Studios also delivered over 7500 reduced priced tickets over the past year.

[Mayflower.org.uk/get-involved](https://www.mayflower.org.uk/get-involved) & [MayflowerStudios.org.uk/engage](https://www.mayflowerstudios.org.uk/engage)

Mercury Theatre

- The Mercury Theatre in Colchester offers six holiday clubs for children and young people that receive free school meals, are from low-income families, are refugees or looked-after children and for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). A total of 180 places have been offered to eligible young people.
- The theatre offers bursary places to 17% of the children participating in the Mercury Young Company – to children from low-income households. Demand for bursaries is high, and the scheme currently oversubscribed.
- In 2024, the Mercury Theatre will tour to 12 primary schools across Essex with a numeracy show designed to enrich the maths curriculum through drama. Funding from Essex County Council supports the project, helping to increase its reach.
- The theatre is a partner of The Great British School Trip, which enables it to offer travel bursaries to schools, enabling them to attend the theatre to see a performance or participate in a workshop.

- In addition, the Creative Engagement team provides schools with a wide range of workshops and events for pupils - from Key Stage 1 through to Undergraduate level. CPD sessions for teachers and bespoke sessions are also provided.
- To make theatre as accessible as possible, the Mercury Theatre provides Relaxed Performances six times a year. These performances are designed for people with Autism, a learning disability, sensory and communication disorders, or Dementia, helping them to experience a live performance with their families.
- All Mercury Theatre productions are accompanied by social stories – a guide that gives visitors an idea of what it will be like to visit the venue. It includes pictures of the building and information on things audiences might see during their visit. For Relaxed Performances, the social story is distributed before the show.

MercuryTheatre.co.uk

Mimbire

- Hackney-based company, Mimbire, hosts a youth programme that reaches over 45 young people every week, using acrobatics, dance and public performances to build confidence, friendships and well-being.
- Mimbire focuses on inclusion, diversity and representation in order to build a community where young people and their families can feel a strong sense of belonging.

Mimbire.co.uk/learning

Milton Keynes Theatre

- As part of engagement linked to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT) production, 19 young pre-professional dancers joined a four-day residential, and were able to:
 - Take part in daily technique classes.
 - Learn choreography from a company dancer.
 - See the professional production.
 - Gain valuable training and careers insight.
- The young people came from the local area and from across the country, allowing participants to meet dancers from different backgrounds and abilities. Milton Keynes Theatre provided bursary support to ensure that the residential was accessible to a wide demographic and available to all.
- Whilst Ailey II were touring in Milton Keynes, the theatre hosted a dance workshop with three members of the company - giving local people the chance to learn from international industry professionals and to dance onstage. The dancers took part in a technique class and learned repertoire and a movement sequence from some of the Ailey II work. There was also the chance to watch the Company dancers in their daily

Company Class and take part in an insight talk with Ailey II's Artistic Director, Francesca Harper.

- Following funding from Milton Keynes Council to enable the theatre to work with a school in a priority area of Milton Keynes, students at Sir Herbert Leon Academy took part in contemporary dance workshops, careers talks and theatre tours, and received complimentary tickets to Dada Masilo's The Sacrifice and Ailey II at Milton Keynes Theatre. This work enabled students to attend the theatre with their family members and engage with the venue.
- The MKT Young Company is designed to give young people a practical insight into life in a professional theatre company, by working to devise and develop a piece of theatre - from initial concept through to final curtain. Young people take on performing or backstage roles, working alongside a director as a mentor, and acquire skills and experience to equip them for future projects and career aspirations. The MKT Young Company perform at least twice a year in local theatres and community spaces.

[ATGtickets.com/venues/milton-keynes-theatre](https://atgtickets.com/venues/milton-keynes-theatre)

Minack Theatre

- The Minack Theatre in Cornwall offers:
 - 50% discount on tickets for those aged under 16 at over 95% of shows.
 - £5 ticket prices for school groups on many of its events.
 - A learning and participation programme, which is offered free of charge to young participants as a result of an £180,00 investment from charity reserves. Over 6,000 participants took part in sessions in 2023.
- The theatre provides regular creative curriculum and careers advice to local schools.
- In 2023, the Minack Theatre ran a mass schools' project where over 300 young people took part in schools' performances of Lullaby of the Tides.

[Minack.com](https://minack.com)

Mischief Theatre Company

- Mischief Theatre Company is the creator of MISCHIEF Teachers Resources - designed to make pupils serious about silliness and bring comedy to the classroom.
- The education programme is being developed for launch in May 2024, with teachers able to use the resources after seeing any Mischief show.

[MischiefComedy.com](https://mischiefcomedy.com)

National Dance Company Wales

- The National Dance Company in Wales engages children and young people in several ways:
 - It offers discount ticket deals for shows for young people. Over 1000 were provided in 2023.
 - It delivered schools workshops to 1,662 young people across Wales and England over the same period.
 - It supported young aspiring dancers in Wales by delivering 1,121 people sessions.
 - As well as delivering 1,343 young people's dance and music sessions in community settings in Wales.

[NDCwailes.co.uk](https://www.ndcwailes.co.uk)

National Theatre

- The National Theatre (NT) works with young people in every local authority in the country, and in 71 of 109 Levelling Up for Culture places.
- In 2022-23, the NT reached 42,000 children and young people nationwide. They trained over 1,200 teachers and youth leaders, and worked directly with 718 schools, 73% of which were outside of London.
- Each year, more than 60,000 young people see NT performances at subsidised rates, including by accessing £10 tickets for 16–25-year-olds.

Connections:

- Connections is an annual, nationwide youth theatre festival. Now in its 29th year, nearly 120,000 young people have taken part in Connections since it started.
- Each year, the NT commission ten new plays created especially for young people (there is now a library of more than 200 Connections plays). They work with 35 venues from across the UK – from Poole to Pitlochry – to support schools and youth theatre groups to stage one of these ten plays and then perform it at regional festivals. Each year, ten productions – one of each of the plays – are selected to perform at the week-long Connections festival at the NT.
- Last year, over 8,500 young people and 350 teachers and group leaders from more than 250 schools and youth groups across the UK and Ireland took part. 42% of the groups were from high priority or levelling up places.
- Many well-known actors – including John Boyega, David Oyelowo and Keira Knightley – have pursued careers after taking part in Connections.

New Views:

- New Views is an annual in-school playwriting programme and competition for students aged 14–19. Since New Views was launched in 2012, nearly 15,000 young people have taken part.
- Over 1,500 secondary students from more than 100 schools across the country took part last year. The winning play was Barrier(s) by Eloise Pennycott – it platformed d/Deaf communities, incorporating both British Sign Language and captioning, and had three performances in the Dorfman theatre with a professional company.

Speak Up:

- Speak Up is the NT's new secondary school programme. It gives young people the opportunity to explore issues that matter to them as they work with local artists to produce creative work in any form that they choose. The programme expanded after its successful pilot year in 2021-22, reaching over 6,700 young people in nearly 50 schools across the country.
- As part of Speak Up, the NT appointed a youth council – the first youth council ever affiliated with the NT – which gives the young people involved in the programme a chance to help shape its future.

Touring to schools:

- *"The show is as good as many performed at the National's London base... this is levelling up in action, broadening horizons and creating opportunities through the arts... the National Theatre should be celebrated for trying to level the cultural playing field."* - The Times on our touring production of Jekyll & Hyde for secondary schools
- Last year, nearly 16,000 students saw a National Theatre performance in their school or one local to them.
- For primary schools, the NT revived their 65-minute version of Hamlet, reimaged for young audiences by Jude Christian. The production – which also played in the Dorfman theatre – reached over 7,500 young people from more than 100 schools, 72% of which were in the Government's priority education investment areas.
- For secondary schools, the NT worked with theatre company The PappyShow and teenagers across the country to devise a new piece of theatre that was based on the views, ideas and experiences of young people. Shut Up, I'm Dreaming dealt with themes of aspiration, identity at home and school, belonging and grief, and the tour reached over 8,000 students from 50 schools.
- This year, the NT are reviving their 2022 production of Jekyll & Hyde for secondary schools, which Rachel Sylvester of The Times called 'levelling up in action'.

National Theatre Collection – schools streaming platform:

- The National Theatre Collection, the NT's free platform that provides schools and Further Education colleges with access to high-quality recordings of productions and supplementary learning materials, is now being used by 85% of state secondary schools. The NT are also working with the New York City Department of Education to

bring the Collection to 30,000 of the most economically and culturally underserved students from 180 schools across the city's five boroughs.

- The NT are expanding the Collection with 20 new productions, providing access to a selection of plays for free in UK public libraries, and adding more productions to their bespoke Collection for primary schools, in partnership with the Unicorn Theatre.

Public Acts:

- Since 2017, the NT have been working in partnership with organisations delivering visionary work in their communities. Community members take part in regular workshops, theatre trips and creative social opportunities. Through partnerships, and in collaboration with theatre artists and professional performers, the communities come together to make ambitious large-scale productions.
- The first Public Acts production, a new version of Shakespeare's *Pericles*, was performed in the Olivier theatre for three sold-out shows in 2018, by a company of 233 – the largest to ever play at the NT. The company members from London and Essex ranged from 4 to 83 years old. The production's five-star review in *The Times* read: *"What is a national theatre? What should it do? What should it look and sound like? The answer, as more than 200 amateur performers took to the Olivier stage to perform a joyous musical version of Shakespeare's Pericles, was defiantly this: inclusive, empowering, revitalising, celebratory, multicultural, multilingual and downright fun."*
- Other Public Acts community productions include a new version of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch, and a new version of Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (renamed *The Doncastrian Chalk Circle*) at Cast in Doncaster. This year, to celebrate the 5th anniversary of Public Acts, the NT worked with communities across the country to create a multi-episode version of *The Odyssey*, which played in Stoke-on-Trent, Doncaster, Trowbridge and Sunderland before performances at the NT.

Apprenticeships and training programmes:

- The on-site NT workshops create the majority of our productions' sets, costumes and props, and they provide unique opportunities for training.
- The NT have trained 50 apprentices across 16 departments over the last ten years, focusing on specialist backstage areas like scenic carpentry, scenic art, technical theatre and prop-making. 90% of these apprentices have gone directly into paid, professional work in the area they were trained in. The NT are currently working with ROH, ATG and White Light on the Portable Apprenticeship Pilot Programme, to help make apprenticeships in the sector more accessible.
- Since 2017, nearly 200 14–18-year-olds have taken part in the NT's young technicians training programme. The NT delivers this programme in partnership with organisations across the country, including Nottingham Playhouse and Home in Manchester.
- Each year, the NT trains over 1,000 under-21-year-olds across a range of theatre-making disciplines, including technical theatre, backstage roles, performing, writing, producing and devising.

National Theatre of Scotland

- In 2023, the National Theatre of Scotland and Imagine's schools touring project, Theatre in Schools Scotland (TISS), toured to 170 schools, playing to an audience of nearly 10,000 young people.
- Creative career sessions offered high school pupils a tour of their vibrant creation centre, Rockvilla, and the chance about the career journeys of theatre staff.
- The theatre's free Education Portal is an invaluable study aid to teachers, home educators, pupils and students, and includes interviews from cast and creative team members across a range of productions.
- The school-sited production, Like Flying, was created in response to growing levels of anxiety in teenagers across Scotland, and invited 12-14 year olds to learn to 'fly' through aerial performance.
- National Theatre of Scotland also operates a Theatre for a Fiver scheme, offering those aged 14-26 access to top-price tickets for just £5. Since the scheme was launched, over 4500 young people have signed up.

[NationalTheatreScotland.com](https://www.nationaltheatre.scotland.com)

Newcastle Theatre Royal Trust

- The Newcastle Theatre Royal Trust offers £5 tickets to under 30s in priority areas.
- The theatre partners with nine schools to provide a free after-school club.
- Every year, 1500 tickets are shared with local residents via the council's EVRY initiative.
- The Newcastle Theatre Royal Trust also worked with primary schools on a story-led resilience project that included free production tickets.
- The organisation subsidises a year-long professional acting training programme for up to 18 young people and offers bursary places to its Youth Theatre and Summer School.
- It delivers a Roots project, supporting and developing diverse communities through school workshops.
- Insight visits, which include tours and careers talks, are provided free-of-charge for all Year 6 classes from schools within Newcastle.

[TheatreRoyal.co.uk](https://www.theatreroyal.co.uk)

New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth

- Portsmouth's New Theatre Royal hosts regular youth theatre rehearsals and workshops in their Minghella Studio and co-produce fully staged performances by youth groups and schools, including the All England Dance Awards, The Schools Shakespeare Festival and NT Connections. This give children the experience of performing in a fully accessible Matcham/Phipps Grade II* listed theatre.

- Their programme presents top quality professional theatre for children and families, hosting touring companies like Les Enfants Terribles, Tall Stories, La Navete Bete, and adaptations of children's books by authors such as Micheal Morpurgo and Julia Donaldson as well as school set texts performed in creative ways such as Macbeth, Julius Ceasar (Icarus Theatre) and Tess (Ockam's Razor).
- Visiting companies to the theatre provide in-school and on-site workshops and learning packs for children in mainstream and alternative education.
- Associate Artists, Filskit Theatre, produce monthly 'Wondergigs' specifically for pre-school children.
- Associate Artists, Two Colours Choir, supports Ukrainian Refugee families.
- The annual traditional Pantomime is created for families and children and provides many special offers for local schools and community groups, including some free of charge.
- The theatre has a specific provision for those with special needs, including relaxed performances and BSL supported performances.
- For young people under 25 and students of all ages the theatre offers £10 tickets and works closely with local schools, colleges and higher education providers to provide engagement workshops as well as work experience, internships, taster sessions and mentoring.
- The paid Front of House team start at age 16 and work alongside volunteers who are mostly retired, offering a unique opportunity for intergenerational collaboration.
- Formal Apprenticeships in marketing and technical theatre are offered as well as BFI trainees, and the theatre hosts ABTT Bronze training to support the next generation of theatre technicians.
- Through membership of the Portsmouth Cultural Education Partnership the theatre participates in teacher engagement days, creative learning marketplaces and twilight CPD workshops.
- With the arrival of new CEO Dr Anna Farthing, the New Theatre Royal, will be initiating a Youth Board to inform our Trustees and management.

NewTheatreRoyal.com

Nick of Time Productions

- Nick of Time Productions will be staging an extra nine student matinees of The Most Precious of Goods from January 2024. These will be offered to school pupils aged 13+, with tickets made available at £2 for state schools and £5 for independent schools.
- After the matinees will be a series of Q&As with guests including Christina Lamb (Sunday Times' Chief Foreign Correspondent), Dame Maureen Lipman and Francesca Simon (Author of the Horrid Henry book series).
- There are over 900 booking so far.

MostPreciousGoods.com/education

Nicoll Entertainment - The Tiger Who Came to Tea, Dinosaur World Live, Dragons & Mythical Beasts, The Lion Inside

- Nicoll Entertainment offers heavily discounted tickets for schools (priced at £10 or under) and for West End productions it offers discounted or free tickets to charity groups.
- Shows have been seen by 532,000 people across the UK and abroad.

[NicollEntertainment.com](https://www.nicollentertainment.com)

Northern Stage

- Northern Stage's Technical Theatre Work Experience weeks introduce 14-16 and 16-18-year-olds to backstage careers twice a year.
- Their Pay It Forward scheme, supported through audience and business donations, provides free or heavily subsidised theatre tickets for young people who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford to visit the theatre. The company's 2023 campaign has enabled 2000 people to see Cinderella for free.

[NorthernStage.co.uk](https://www.northernstage.co.uk)

The Old Vic

- The Old Vic's education programme focuses on schools with poor arts provision and students who have little or no access to the arts. Central to its work is the belief that engaging with the arts enriches lives and that encounters with theatre can act as a gateway into the arts for people from all backgrounds.
- In 2022/23, The Old Vic welcomed over 2000 students from across London, 80% of whom had never been to The Old Vic before.
- Its Schools Club engages 40 state secondary schools from across London, introducing pupils to a range of roles. Every year up to 1200 students in years 9-13 can watch four shows at the theatre for free and participate in workshops in their school.
- Take the Lead is a free employability programme for up to 800 students in years 11-13 that utilises drama techniques to explore five core skills – communication, self-management, self-belief, teamwork and problem-solving. It helps young people prepare for the world of work through workshops and theatre trips.
- These supported interventions can have a lasting impact on young people, making them feel welcome in cultural institutions, broadening their horizons and upskilling them. 72% of students who took part in the schools' programmes said it had inspired them to visit more cultural organisations.

[OldVicTheatre.com](https://www.oldvictheatre.com)

Avalon and the Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG) - Operation Mincemeat

- In partnership with Imperial War Museums & ATG Creative Learning, education workshops are available to school pupils and youth groups attending the musical, Operation Mincemeat.
- The workshops use extracts from the show, character work and devising techniques to unlock students' potential.

OperationMincemeat.com/education

Pilot Theatre

- Pilot Theatre recently launched its national Just the Ticket initiative, enabling secondary schools with higher-than-average numbers of students eligible for free school meals to attend its productions for free.
- The scheme was launched in response to feedback from secondary school teachers that are members of Pilot Theatre's national Learning Advisory Board. Those teachers outlined the multiple barriers staff face in arranging theatre trips, including:
 - A narrow and restrictive curriculum.
 - High transport costs for visits.
 - A perceived lack of value ascribed to arts subjects by policy makers.
 - Limited capacity of staff to arrange and support trips.
 - Limitations of school and family budgets.
- Alongside the initiative, Pilot Theatre delivers an extensive programme of learning resources, workshops, CPD and creative projects to accompany its productions, with a view to empowering young people and their teachers.

Pilot-Theatre.com

Pitlochry Festival Theatre

- Pitlochry Festival Theatre provides the following activity for children and young people:
 - Early Stages for 0-3 year olds - a soft play area where everyone is welcome. This supports young children who are socially isolated due to the rural nature of the area.
 - A free drama club at the local school, to enable access for those who are economically disadvantaged and do not have access to transport.
 - Free Make and Play half-day arts activity sessions in the summer.
 - A schools' engagement programme in local schools, including production-related workshops, visits to the theatre and visiting performances.
 - Regular work experience opportunities for students at local high schools.

- Large scale creative engagement projects that are free to access – designed to engage children in arts activities that inspire and encourage self-expression.
 - Young people's participation in mainstream productions.
- The Pitlochry Festival Theatre is one of only two venues in Scotland partnering with the National Theatre on Connections.

[PitlochryFestivalTheatre.com](https://www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com)

Playful Productions

- Playful Productions, one of the largest independent theatre production and general management companies, offers young people a range of opportunities, including:
 - A rolling programme of six-month paid internships, targeted at under 25s.
 - An annual 12-month undergraduate placement in their finance department.
 - Ten Stage One apprenticeships (to date) for emerging producers.
 - Ticket donations to charity initiatives for young people, including the National Youth Theatre.
- Its production of Get Up, Stand Up offered backstage work placements and mentorship for emerging practitioners aged 16-25 from global majority backgrounds, in partnership with Arts Emergency. Additionally, in partnership with Enfield Caribbean Association Community House and Black Ticket Project, 100s of free tickets were given to young Black people under 25. Students aged 18 and under, from disadvantaged backgrounds and often living in social care, were also hosted in partnership with the White City Theatre Project.
- In collaboration with fellow producers 'Global Creatures', Moulin Rouge! The Musical took part in London's inaugural Get Technical Day. The day is all about supporting workforce training and development and 800 people took part with the majority aged under 25. Much of this work falls under Moulin Rouge! The Musicals, Bohemian Project.

[PlayfulUK.com](https://www.playfuluk.com)

PW Productions

- PW Productions offers the following to make their shows more accessible to young audiences:
 - 68,000 tickets priced under £40 for Spirited Away at the London Coliseum.
 - School Group tickets available in every theatre on the 33-week tour of The Woman in Black, with prices ranging from £15 - £19.
- The UK tour of An Inspector Calls in 2024 will also include deals for school groups. The last tour played to over 250,000, with an estimated audience of 50% young people.
- The upcoming UK tour of Wonder Boy will see school groups and young people offered tickets at an average rate of £15.

[PWProds.co.uk](https://www.pwprods.co.uk)

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre

- The Regents Park Open Air Theatre offers:
 - £10 Preview tickets for 18–25-year-olds.
 - Subsidised tickets for local schools. 64% of attendees for the 2023 production of *The Tempest* (for ages 6+) were first time visitors.
 - Free or subsidised tickets for local community groups and the London Ticket Bank.
 - Several accessible performances, including relaxed performances.
- In 2024, the theatre will introduce £15 tickets. The lowest ticket price offered, to date, has been £25.

OpenAirTheatre.com

Regent Theatre and Victoria Hall, Stoke

- The Regent Theatre's annual O Dance Festival is a community festival celebrating dance and local talent.
- It brings together over 700 performers from dance companies, performance groups, schools and adult groups from across Staffordshire and the North West.

ATGtickets.com/stoke

Royal & Derngate Northampton

- The Royal & Derngate Northampton offers:
 - The Unlock Theatre Programme, giving schools access to tickets, workshops, insights, CPD and CreatED campaigns.
 - 16-25 pricing schemes and student specific first nights.
 - Family cinema funding which supports lower ticket prices.
 - The Unforgettable Gift 'pay it forward' campaign.
- The theatre also works with Northamptonshire Sport on free meal giveaways.

RoyalandDerngate.co.uk/get-involved/education

Royal Exchange Theatre

- The Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester works closely with local schools, and offers:
 - Schools' workshops, projects and tours. In 2023, 54 schools and colleges took part in 84 workshops, ten projects and six Q&As – cumulatively reaching over 4500 students.

- Schools Days that include workshops with cast and creative teams, a chance to watch the show and then take part in an exclusive post-show Q&A. Nearly 1,000 students came to two school days in autumn 2023 for Great Expectations and Romeo and Juliet.
- The theatre's Local Exchange programme works in five areas of Greater Manchester with low arts engagement and includes schools' partnership projects. In 2022, the Royal Exchange Theatre hosted a 2-week arts festival at a secondary school in East Manchester. And in 2023, the organisation gave away 1,787 tickets to these schools, enabling them to see a production at the theatre.

RoyalExchange.co.uk

Royal Opera House

- The Royal Opera House provides dance, singing and design programmes for children and young people.
- Last season, the organisation worked with 44,570 pupils, 1,534 teachers and 790 schools – reaching from Cornwall to Cumbria.
- The Royal Opera House has also secured regional partnerships with Bradford City of Culture 2025, Coventry and Doncaster.
- The Young ROH programme, which offers discounted tickets to young people aged 16 – 25, has helped to diversify opera audiences. 25-34 year olds are now the organisation's biggest age group (25%).

ROH.org.uk

Royal Shakespeare Company

- The Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) has one of the UK's largest arts learning and participation programmes, which is focused on areas of structural disadvantage across England. For many taking part, it's their first taste of Shakespeare and/or live theatre.
- The RSC has:
 - Reached 14,500 young people through their £10 TikTok ticket initiative.
 - A yearly reach of 1,000 schools, 2,000 teachers and 500,000 young people and adults.
- Its 'First Encounters' touring productions are aimed at giving new and younger audiences access to Shakespeare and live theatre within their own communities. They do this by designing productions for school halls or regional theatres.
- The RSC's Associate Schools Programme focuses on building long-term partnerships with primary, secondary and special schools in 30 towns and cities and providing transformative experiences of Shakespeare's work in the classroom.

- The company's regular and free Schools' Broadcasts, Shakespeare Nation community participation programme and Next Generation long term talent development programme all enable young people to develop skills for life and work.

[RSC.org.uk](https://www.rsc.org.uk)

Sadler's Wells

- Keen to open-up opportunities to enjoy dance, Sadler's Wells has developed partnerships and initiatives that improve access for children and young people. These include the Barclays Dance Pass scheme, which offers tickets to 16–30-year-olds for just £10. To date, the scheme has 18,000 members.
- The Sadler's Wells Get into Dance scheme also offers disadvantaged communities access to tickets for £3.
- The organisation works with schools to offer dance classes and curriculum support:
 - Associate School partnerships help to embed arts-inspired activities into the school day.
 - As part of the Breakin' Convention, schools and local education authorities can take part in a range of events for young people, including hip hop workshops, courses for special education needs (SEN) schools or combining dance skills with science.
- As part of East Bank, Sadler's Wells is a founding member of the Shared Employment and Training Scheme, offering young East Londoners access to paid internships in the arts.
- It also works with The Roundhouse to fund a shared technical apprentice.

[SadlersWells.com/take-part](https://www.sadlerswells.com/take-part)

Shaftesbury Theatre

- At Shaftesbury Theatre, including for their current production of Mrs Doubtfire, the offer for young people and communities includes:
 - Free tickets for Camden residents, and residents of the six most deprived London boroughs.
 - 'Pay What You Can' nights.
 - Education Packs for shows, including Mrs Doubtfire.
 - Access and Relaxed Performances, and 13 wheelchair spaces.
 - Hosting Inspire Education workshops and an apprenticeship programme.

[Inspire-ebp.org.uk/host-a-workplace-visit/](https://inspire-ebp.org.uk/host-a-workplace-visit/)

MrsDoubtfireMusical.co.uk/education/ & [ShaftesburyTheatre.com](https://www.shaftesburytheatre.com)

Shakespeare North Playhouse

- The Shakespeare North Playhouse, in Prescot, is passionate about the value of creative activity and cultural experiences. Its education offer focuses on partnership working with local schools and education providers.
- Built upon feedback from schools, the School Partnership offer includes free tickets for a class to a performance in The Cockpit Theatre, the traditional 470 seat timber framed Shakespearean theatre (with additional tickets provided at a discounted rate). The partnership also includes:
 - A discount on transport to the theatre.
 - A free one-day workshop on a range of topics and able to be adapted for different ages and abilities.
 - Year-round discounts on CPD and workshops.
- The Shakespeare North Playhouse also provides a funded member scheme for looked-after children, alongside several community and youth projects.

ShakespeareNorthPlayhouse.co.uk

Sonia Friedman Productions

- Sonia Friedman Productions is an international production company responsible for some of the most successful theatre productions in the world. It offers the following initiatives:
 - More than 1,400 tickets were released every month during the 15-month run of To Kill a Mockingbird under the All Rise £15 tickets initiative, targeting underrepresented groups and first-time theatregoers. Additionally, the company provided an exclusive allocation of six to ten tickets per weekday performance to targeted underrepresented groups, who were able to attend for free or at a heavily discounted price.
 - For the show, Dr Semmelweis, private subsidy supported a sold-out schools' performance, which saw 17 different schools from across London attend at £10 a ticket.
 - For the shows, Lyonesse and The Hills of California, Sonia Friedman Productions partnered with ATG's Creative Learning team to offer tickets at £10 (plus booking fee). For Lyonesse, just under 200 tickets were offered in the front of the stalls. And for The Hills of California, 1000 tickets are being offered at £10 (plus booking fee) for NHS and key workers, those who are in receipt of government benefits, educational groups, community organisations, and those who currently access food banks.
 - For the show, Oklahoma!, schools and community groups were identified to receive subsidised tickets to encourage first time theatregoing. 555 tickets were taken up by 19 different organisations including youth groups, community

groups and charities. Band A tickets were also offered at £10 to reach first time theatre goers and students.

[SoniaFriedman.com](https://soniafriedman.com)

Stage Entertainment: TINA - The Tina Turner Musical

- Through its West-End production, TINA – The Tina Turner Musical, Stage Entertainment has thrown open its doors to young people visiting the theatre for the first time, introducing them to technical roles and career routes into the theatre.
- Twice a year the company hosts Education and Careers Matinees. Before the show, the finale scene is explored and discussed, given a behind-the-scenes look at all the roles involved.
- Tickets are provided at £10 and offered to schools in London boroughs identified as Arts Council England Priority Places.
- After the performance, teachers are provided with additional information, including FAQs and careers links, to support further work in the classroom.
- The TINA team will be running smaller workshops in different backstage departments over the course of 2024, with a view to offering work experience placements to participants.

[TinaTheMusical.com](https://tina-themusical.com)

Stephen Joseph Theatre

- Each year, 1000 young carers and people on housing benefits are able to visit the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, thanks to a partnership providing tickets for £1.
- This is in addition to £10 tickets, which are available on all productions, and access initiatives that help to eliminate barriers to attendance. These include British Sign Language (BSL) performances and dementia friendly, relaxed, captioned, audio-described and socially distanced performances.
- Over 30,000 children and young people each year take part in the many opportunities provided by the venue, including youth theatres, choirs, schools' workshops and summer holiday activity. Many of these are subsidised or free of charge.
- And by targeting its Christmas productions at local families less likely to engage with the theatre, the Stephen Joseph Theatre has diversified its audiences – with an average of 30% of bookers each year drawn from the nine most deprived wards in Scarborough.

[SJT.uk.com](https://sjt.uk.com)

Stockton Globe

- In September 2022, over 700 members of the community came together to celebrate the Stockton Globe's one-year anniversary. GLOBEfest was a free, interactive, community-led celebration in partnership with Stockton Borough Council.
- Families enjoyed a variety of live entertainment including a storytelling nook, pop-up cinema, street theatre, heritage exhibition, creative workshops and live music and poetry from homegrown emerging artists.
- It was described by Tracey Hamilton from Eastern Ravens Trust as: "...a great experience for everyone that attended... it had a real party atmosphere which they obviously loved as some of them don't get to experience anything like that...."
- In November 2023, 'Stockton Sings' brought eight primary schools and 466 children together for an afternoon of Beatles-themed fun, including singalongs, competitions, games and even a rave.
- Hannah Robson, Bader Primary School Teacher, said: "It has had a massive impact on the children in the run up to the event and the actual day. They have so much enthusiasm about singing and now The Beatles. They were buzzing when they returned to school and have talked about it all day. So much so we are writing our own newspaper reports about the events and have been singing again today. We would love to attend more events like this and it gives our children a memorable experience that they just wouldn't get outside of school."

StocktonGlobe.co.uk

Storyhouse

- Storyhouse in Chester hosts a free young actors training programme for 18–25-year-olds, working with 20 young people each year.
- It also runs a schools partnership programme that places artists in school settings. Currently, 20 schools are taking part.
- Every year, Storyhouse tours a curriculum text to local schools. This year's production, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, visited 17 schools across the region.
- Subsidised visits are provided, ensuring that schools in the most underserved communities are able to enjoy a theatre visit.
- In addition, 3000 tickets are given away, each year, to low-income households and groups working with people who experience barriers in accessing theatre.
- Every year, Storyhouse hosts a series of events for children and young people, including a schools day connected to Storyhouse Women Festival and a children's literature event. In 2023, the children's literature event took the form of a poetry performance event for 800 children.

Storyhouse.com

Stratford East

- For the last decade, Stratford East has been working with the London Borough of Newham to provide all year seven pupils with free tickets to their annual pantomime. For many, this is their first visit to a theatre.
- In addition, teachers are provided with education packs and additional professional development to ensure they can maximise the learning value for pupils.
- For many, these formative experiences spark a passion for theatre that continues into later life. Feedback from pupils showed that 89% of students were interested in attending more productions and 45% of students were interested in participating in theatre activities after their visit.
- In Newham, 56% of schools only go to the theatre once a year, and often this is when free tickets are provided. Without these free tickets, many schools simply would not attend.
- Newham is an ethnically and culturally diverse borough, and Stratford East productions are deliberately cast with diverse performers. Many children remark on how much they value seeing people like them on the stage, which is crucial in breaking down perceptions that the theatre is 'exclusive.'
- While free tickets are offered via schools, Stratford East has seen that parental support for the theatre flows from a child's visit - as a result of them coming home enthused by what they have experienced.

Read more at: [UKTheatre.org/why-addressing-cost-improves-access-to-the-theatre-for-children-and-young-people/](https://uktheatre.org/why-addressing-cost-improves-access-to-the-theatre-for-children-and-young-people/)

[StratfordEast.com](https://stratfordeast.com)

Sunderland Empire

- The Sunderland Empire offers:
 - Work in Theatre: an ACE funded programme rooted in improving access to theatre careers nationally for underprivileged and under-represented young people, bringing theatre careers opportunities to 15 regions, ten Priority Places & 21 Levelling Up areas. The programme will engage 4k individual participants, 250 freelance creatives and 28k digital audiences.
 - Creative Generation Day: a group wide initiative across the UK & US that highlights the important work teams do to encourage young people to explore a job in the arts. Achieving a collective reach across our socials having over 75k impressions and 3k active engagements in the first week.
- Theatre Nation Partnership: ATG venues in Sunderland and more recently Stoke have been working in partnership with local partners and National Theatre over the past six years to collaboratively deliver programmes that address:
 - Falling arts provision in schools due to EBacc through audience development initiatives (increasing engagement with secondary schools attending a show in

Sunderland from 10% to 90% of schools), long term schools' partnerships across three years (ten new partnerships across both Sunderland and Stoke) and touring high quality product directly into school spaces engaging over 6.5k high school pupils across Sunderland & Stoke since 2019.

- Mental health and advocacy of young children in schools through Youth-led creative programmes that are engaging over 250 individual pupils across Sunderland and Stoke.
- Decreased local engagement in arts activity by creating extraordinary acts of community, audience development and performance through a public performance programme engaging 25 participants in Sunderland creating a performance that speaks to the local area with local creatives alongside to perform on a national stage brought to over 4.5k audience members.

ATGtickets.com/venues/sunderland-empire

Talawa Theatre

- Talawa Theatre is working in partnership with Unicorn Theatre to address a significant gap in high-quality, accessible theatre for babies aged 6-18 months. Currently there is a lack of early years provision in Croydon and no African or Caribbean artists working in this area.
- Talawa Theatre and Unicorn Theatre are embarking on a three-year programme of work that will culminate in new show for babies aimed at Black and Global Majority audiences:
 - Workshops in family centres and nurseries across Croydon will help to shape the development of the show.
 - Mid-career theatre makers of African and Caribbean descent will be supported with training and development to build expertise in working with early years audiences.
 - An initial research phase, in collaboration with Croydon Council, will aid engagement with early years and children's centres and other groups.

Talawa.com

Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

- The Creative Learning department at the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds delivers in excess of 9000 engagements with local communities, families and schools every year, through a series of activities and initiatives:
 - The venue's Tiny Plays Big Ideas project supports 380 ten year olds to write their first play.

- 2000 children theatre in rural isolated primary schools are able to experience professional theatre via the theatre's Doorstep Project tours.
- The Shakespearience project introduces primary school children to the works of William Shakespeare.
- The theatre produces a community play every summer, which teaches children to sing, dance and act alongside professional performers.
- The non-verbal SENSory Youth Theatre programme provides opportunities for neuro-divergent and learning disabled children to engage with theatre.
- These activities take place in addition to the theatre's core programme that includes a thriving youth theatre for 8-18 year olds and its annual pantomime attended by 24,000 family audiences.
- The theatre has also developed partnerships that support and increase access to theatre, including:
 - A partnership with Jobcentre Plus, which provides free tickets to families accessing their services.
 - A partnership with Bury St Edmunds Town Council to provide free tickets to low-income families.

TheatreRoyal.org

Theatre Royal Windsor

- The Theatre Royal Windsor has increased its family-focused programming for Easter.
- The theatre also provides incentives and initiatives that help to break down barriers to attendance, including:
 - Student discounts
 - Young person's membership scheme
 - Youth group rates
 - Audio-described performances
 - Annual relaxed performances
 - Registered disabled 'carer comes free' tickets.
- In early 2024, a dedicated Education and Outreach Facilitator will join the team to expand the theatre's offer for children and young people, including extra-curricular activities, increased work experience placements and greater engagement with local schools.

TheatreRoyalWindsor.co.uk/outreach-and-creative-learning

Trafalgar Theatres

- In 2022/23, Trafalgar Theatres proudly reached over 50,000 people from local communities with its creative learning work, including schools.
- As well as offering opportunities for children and young people to see performances in venues across the UK, Trafalgar Theatres collaborates with schools, colleges and

universities to provide interactive workshops and masterclasses that introduce students to the performing arts.

- Their schools outreach programme receives overwhelmingly positive feedback from teachers, who report seeing improved confidence, teamwork and creative thinking from their pupils as a result of their involvement.
- In 2022/23, The Churchill Theatre in Bromley hosted a creative learning week, which provided participation opportunities for over 300 people aged four and upwards. It provided participants with an opportunity to experience immersive theatre, two youth theatre performances and a dance festival. As a result, the theatre experienced higher booking levels for its classes, secured funding to enable more young people to engage with the Youth Theatre Programme and was able to provide work experience opportunities for local young people in Front of House and Technical departments.
- Trafalgar Theatres is also invested in providing creative opportunities for children outside of formal education, with the Stagecoach and Drama Kids programmes providing valuable extracurricular experiences for those interested in the performing arts.
- Trafalgar Theatres believes that performance skills are skills for life – supporting everything from communication, team-building and presentational skills.

TrafalgarTheatres.com

Wales Millennium Centre

- At the Wales Millenium Centre, a community ticketing scheme provides ‘pay what you can’ tickets to approximately 6000 young people and members of the local community each year.
- Children and young people aged between 11-25 are also able to access creative skills, hands-on experience and social opportunities via the venue’s free Creative Voices courses and workshops, some of which offer professionally recognised accreditation.
- Other youth and community groups and are offered the chance to sleep over in the iconic venue as part of the annual Dros Nos event. Over 24 hours, young people aged 14-15, from across Wales, get to see an original production, meet the creative team, take part in workshops and fun activities before turning-in for the night.
- The Centre is in the process of developing state-of-the-art studios for young people that will provide spaces, skills and access to the theatre industry for 1000s of young people every year.
- Shared apprenticeship and junior apprenticeship schemes provide a pathway for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) to develop vocational skills and pathways into theatre. All junior apprentices supported by the Wales Millenium Centre have since gone on to further education.

WMC.org.uk

The Watermill Theatre

- The Watermill Theatre in Berkshire has been opening-up access to its mainstage production, The Wizard of Oz, for young people, courtesy of its individual giving campaign Emerald City. To date, thanks to generous public donations, 286 young people that would not usually be able to experience live theatre, have been able to attend the show.
- Feedback has been positive. One local teacher said: "On the coach on the way to the theatre many of the younger children (Year 2) were talking about being 'excited for the movie', as they had never experienced live theatre and their only point of reference was watching a film at home. Many of our older children knew about theatre but had never experienced a live production with their families. The village in which the school is situated has extremely poor transport links and for many families a visit to the theatre would not be accessible because of cost and transport."
- Feedback from another teacher highlights the importance of theatre in engaging pupils with additional needs: "The faces on year 3 were just wonderful. Also hearing [Child's name] saying "it was the best day ever" was just lovely. The child in question has ASD/ASC, is new to the school and arrived with a history of dysregulation."
- Schools able to take advantage of free tickets reported high demand from parents/carers too: "We had the quickest response and sign up by parents to this trip ever known, as we usually have to chase parents to sign up because a donation is required, even minimal amounts could be a barrier to children attending. The school regularly subsidises trips but still has to often pay for several children. We had 89 pupils signed up within 2 hours of the permission going live on our parent app."
- In addition to this campaign, the Watermill Theatre takes productions into schools and community centres and runs an outreach programme, including Careers in the Arts, which provides training, traineeships and insights into the theatre industry.

[Watermill.org.uk](https://www.watermill.org.uk)

Wessex Grove and Underbelly

- In Liverpool, the stars of Macbeth - Ralph Fiennes, Indira Varma, Lucy Mangan and Lola Shalam - visited schools in deprived areas of the city to offer in-person workshops, in collaboration with Liverpool City Council.
- An education pack was also shared with schools giving a further opportunity for young people to engage with the work of Shakespeare.

[WessexGrove.com](https://www.wessexgrove.com) & [Underbelly.co.uk](https://www.underbelly.co.uk)

Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

- In 2022/23, the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre delivered the Youth Arts Leadership Project, working with two secondary schools in Surrey with high pupil premium numbers. As a result of the project, 47 pupils achieved their Arts Award (Bronze level).
- Every year since 2021, the theatre has delivered the Discover Theatre Project in special educational needs (SEN) schools in Surrey. To date, 20 D/deaf and disabled students have achieved Arts Award Explore. Another ten are due to complete the project in March 2024.
- Every year, 60 secondary school pupils attend the theatre's Creative Careers Morning, where they can participate in workshops and panel discussions.
- In addition, the theatre provides work experience placements for five to ten pupils each year and an apprenticeship for a young person in backstage and technical theatre.
- The Yvonne Arnaud Theatre uses funding to provide other subsidised opportunities for children young people to engage with theatre:
 - Over 200 tickets are provided to young carers, unaccompanied asylum seeking children and care experienced children and young people – enabling them to experience the annual pantomime free of charge.
 - 40 bursary places on holiday workshops are provided to young carers, children eligible for free school meals and those receiving the pupil premium.
 - These opportunities are provided in addition to other ticket discounts for students, the under 25s, Job Seekers and those in receipt of Pension Credit and Universal Credit.

yvonne-arnaud.co.uk

The examples above demonstrate the work currently done by the theatre sector to grow children's engagement with theatre. We know engagement with theatre has significant benefits, but too many children are missing out. Every child has the right to experience and enjoy the UK's world-class theatre. This is why, ahead of the general election expected in 2024, Society of London Theatre and UK Theatre is calling on all politicians to pledge for every child to attend the theatre at least once before they leave school.

TheatreForEveryChild.org

TheatreForEveryChild@soltukt.co.uk

[#TheatreForEveryChild](https://twitter.com/TheatreForEveryChild)