

The Arts Award logo, featuring a stylized white 'a' followed by the words 'arts' and 'award' in a lowercase sans-serif font.

arts  
award

A blue rectangular box containing the word 'Schools' in white sans-serif font.

Schools

A blue rectangular box containing the text 'For all Key Stages' in white sans-serif font.

For all Key Stages

The Trinity College London logo, with 'TRINITY' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font and 'COLLEGE LONDON' in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it.

TRINITY  
COLLEGE LONDON

The text 'ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND' in a white sans-serif font, positioned to the right of the circular logo.

ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

## Why Arts Award?

“From the moment I heard about Arts Award I knew it was the way arts should be taught. Being involved in Arts Award has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my teaching career.”

Christine Pearson, ADT teacher, Thomas Estley Community College

Arts Award's unique qualifications support children and young people to develop as artists and arts leaders. Through Arts Award, young people develop knowledge and understanding of their chosen art form, as well as essential skills for success in 21st century life. Arts Award works with any arts, media or cultural activity.

### Value to students

- ▶ Arts Award develops confidence, leadership and organisation skills. 80% of young people reported a positive impact on their communication skills. There is also a lasting impact on students' creativity
- ▶ Achievements are transferable to other areas of the curriculum; there is a proven impact on success in other subjects
- ▶ Arts Award is a positive motivation to study the arts post-16

- ▶ Through Arts Award young people learn to work independently, helping them to prepare for further education and employment. The higher levels offer UCAS points and bolster applications for further study and work.

### Value to schools

- ▶ Arts Award offers schools the opportunity to demonstrate vital Ofsted criteria around providing a broad and balanced curriculum
- ▶ Opportunities are created for new collaborations with arts and cultural organisations, the local community or with other schools
- ▶ The training required to deliver Arts Award supports the professional development of staff
- ▶ Offering Arts Award helps to raise the profile of arts subjects within the school and can contribute to receiving Artsmark status (more at [artsmark.org.uk](http://artsmark.org.uk)).

Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England working with 10 regional Bridge organisations.

## Making it work

### Within the curriculum

‘We love delivering Arts Award at our middle school to recognise the creative work our students do through Music and Art. We offer Bronze through timetabled lessons, and pupils working towards Silver have the chance to stay after school and at lunchtimes to develop their individual portfolios.’

Rowena Eastwood, Head of HART Faculty  
(Humanities, The Arts and RE),  
St Bede’s Catholic Middle School

### Cross-curricular

‘Arts Award has raised the profile of the arts on a whole-school level like no other project or initiative ever has. The young people have developed confidence and skills in leadership and organisation. These positive changes have been transferred to pupils’ work across the curriculum.’

Claire Everett, Head of Art,  
Cranborne Middle School

### Progression

‘Arts Award provides a fantastic opportunity for students to focus on aspects of the arts they enjoy. It has helped provide our students with the additional focus they need at Key Stage 3 and is a perfect precursor to the GCSEs and BTECs we offer at Key Stage 4.’

Marie Giannini, Expressive Arts Director of  
Learning, Longfield Academy



Queenborough School photo Kirsten Holst

### Partnership working

‘Together with the Telford & Wrekin Council’s In Harmony music programme, we have delivered Arts Award Discover and Explore to Years 1, 2, 5 and 6. The programme’s links with orchestras were really inspiring as the pupils got to meet professional musicians.’

Mandie Haywood, Headteacher,  
Old Park Primary School



## Targeted intervention

“Year 7 and 8 students who achieved Arts Award as part of a targeted Pupil Premium project have gained confidence and increased their engagement with the arts. A number of them have improved their attainment in Music, and we have seen an increase in their behaviour scores.”

Zoë Hughes, Head of Music, Beverley Grammar School

## Enrichment

“Offering Arts Award through our Year 9 Specialisms afternoons encouraged independent learning skills. Students were offered a choice of activities and Arts Award was very popular.”

Christine Pearson, Art, Design and Technology Teacher,  
Thomas Estley Community College

## Special educational needs

“Arts Award enables the whole school community to take part in and experience a wide range of arts opportunities. The students build skills, interests and develop confidence through taking part, sharing their work and leading activities. The fact that their achievements are nationally recognised and lead to a qualification is incredibly motivating and rewarding for them.”

Simon Brown, Headteacher, Victoria Education Centre

Find out how Arts Award benefits young people with special educational needs and read case studies about how schools with a special needs focus have made Arts Award work for them at [artsaward.org.uk/SEN](https://artsaward.org.uk/SEN)



The King's School, Worcester  
photo George Archer

## Effective curriculum design

Arts Award provides a framework to demonstrate skills development with measurable outcomes for all students. This can help with framing your curriculum around progressive steps and supporting young people to achieve qualifications in subjects they are passionate about, increasing take-up at Key Stage 4 in the process.

“As a school we are progressing our students through all the levels of Arts Award, from Explore with the primary school up to Gold in our Sixth Form. We highly value the award, giving all Year 8 students the opportunity of doing Bronze Award.”

Lucy Nichol, Lead Practitioner in Art,  
Thomas Gainsborough School

Find out how evidence from Arts Award provision can help to demonstrate Ofsted criteria at [artsaward.org.uk/schools](https://artsaward.org.uk/schools)

# The impact of Arts Award

Arts Award’s impact on young people has been tracked over three years via a longitudinal study led by London South Bank University. This demonstrated strong positive outcomes for young people in schools and other settings nationwide. The main findings can be found in full at [artsaward.org.uk/impactstudy](https://artsaward.org.uk/impactstudy)



Arts Award is a measurable success story. 43% of the sample reported that Arts Award has a positive impact on other subjects, with nearly 30% saying Arts Award has led them to study the arts at post-16.

## Professional skills



Arts Award has positive impacts for the future life chances of young people. Employers are increasingly looking for transferable skills such as confidence, self-motivation and leadership, all of which are proven outcomes of completing an Arts Award.

## Creativity for life



Arts Award helps to develop the arts consumers and makers of the future, encouraging the sustainability of the industry and opening up education and employment prospects to young people.

## GOLD ARTS AWARD

16 UCAS points  
Level 3 Certificate on RQF\*  
90 guided learning hours (150 hours TQT\*\*)

- extend arts practice and create new work
- undertake placements and/or volunteering
- research the wider arts sector
- research an arts issue
- develop leadership skills through running an arts project

## SILVER ARTS AWARD

Level 2 Award on RQF\*  
60 guided learning hours (95 hours TQT\*\*)

- complete an arts challenge
- review arts events
- research arts careers
- develop leadership skills through running an arts project

## BRONZE ARTS AWARD

Level 1 Award on RQF\*  
40 guided learning hours (60 hours TQT\*\*)

- take part in the arts
- review an arts event
- research an artist or craftsperson
- pass on arts skills to others

## ARTS AWARD EXPLORE

Entry Level 3 Award on RQF\*  
25 guided learning hours (35 hours TQT\*\*)

- take part in the arts
- explore the work of artists and arts organisations
- create an art work
- share your exploration

## ARTS AWARD DISCOVER

20 hours (recommended)

- take part in the arts
- experience artists' work
- share your discovery

## What's involved

To achieve an Arts Award, children and young people take challenges in an art form and participate in a range of arts activities, from research to leadership. At all levels they collect evidence along the way in an arts log or portfolio, which is assessed.

Anyone aged 25 and under can take part. Discover and Explore are designed for ages 5 plus (Key Stages 1, 2 and above), and Bronze, Silver and Gold for ages 11 plus (designed for Key Stages 3, 4, 5 and above respectively).

## Get going

### 1. Train staff

Get started by training staff to deliver Arts Award. Courses are available throughout the year. Individuals and small groups can book directly at [artsaward.org.uk/training](https://artsaward.org.uk/training). Groups of six or more from the same organisation or partnership should contact our training team on [training.team@trinitycollege.co.uk](mailto:training.team@trinitycollege.co.uk)

### 2. Plan delivery

Register your school as an Arts Award centre and access planning resources and information. Ongoing support is available from our helpdesk and website [artsaward.org.uk/schools](https://artsaward.org.uk/schools)

### 3. Regional support

Trained advisers can access free support sessions. Further opportunities are also available through a national network of 10 Bridge organisations, which are funded by Arts Council England to drive participation in Arts Award across each region [artsaward.org.uk/support](https://artsaward.org.uk/support)

Get current costs, including information on discounts for large groups, at [artsaward.org.uk/costs](https://artsaward.org.uk/costs)

Book training now to start Arts Award in your school!  
[artsaward.org.uk/training](https://artsaward.org.uk/training)

[artsawardenquiries@trinitycollege.co.uk](mailto:artsawardenquiries@trinitycollege.co.uk)

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