

Arts Award and Music

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

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Introduction



Why run Arts Award?

Arts Award is a unique set of qualifications that support children and young people to enjoy the arts, develop as artists and arts leaders and acquire 21st century communication and professional skills. Since its launch in 2005, the award has grown quickly and now flourishes in arts centres, colleges, schools, community projects, libraries, galleries, local authorities, theatres, youth clubs and youth justice settings. It is offered at five levels - Discover, Explore, Bronze, Silver and Gold.

Arts Award offers young people the chance to:

- ▶ discover the enjoyment of creating and participating in any art form
- ▶ develop their creativity and leadership skills
- ▶ learn new skills and share them with others
- ▶ work with or experience artists and creative professionals
- ▶ gain experience and knowledge to progress into further education and employment

What does Arts Award offer to music educators?

- ▶ A framework for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 whole class ensemble music making and singing
- ▶ Extension for Key Stage 4/5 exam students and graded music exam students, giving them an extra qualification which demonstrates leadership and builds their knowledge of career paths
- ▶ Bespoke resources mapping Bronze Arts Award directly to KS3 music curriculum
- ▶ An accredited progression pathway for unusual instruments, genres, and youth culture music - from ocarinas to GarageBand, from medieval choral music to grime
- ▶ Support for children and young people with special educational needs and those who need adapted musical instruments or assistive technology
- ▶ Measurable outcomes for project funders and other stakeholders

Front cover photograph: Bollywood Brass



Chris Hill is an award-winning young musician. He is currently at Oxford University on a Choral and Instrumental Scholarship. Chris used his Gold Award to stretch his classical musical talents by working with jazz musicians and to develop his leadership skills by organising a concert of young musicians. He says:

“ Arts Award really extended my musical range and encouraged me to experiment. I was able to think outside the box and develop new skills beyond the classical music genre. ”

“Arts Award accreditation helps us work with secondary schools as well as developing our own team’s skills in supporting progression routes. We’ve also used Arts Award to give reception classes the opportunity to gain a qualification for their music work in our whole class programme. It’s a great way for students to gain accreditation through our ensembles.”

*Julie Sharpe,
Manager for Teaching
and Learning, Newham
Music Education Hub*

How is Arts Award different from a graded exam?

Arts Award fits well alongside graded music exams or as a standalone qualification. Young people get involved in practical music-making, listen to live music, do research, find out about inspiring musicians or composers, and pass on musical skills to others. They collect evidence of their musical journey as they go along, using a wide range of formats, including online and accessible formats

Arts Award	Qualification Level	Music Grades (equivalent standard)	School exams (equivalent level of difficulty)
Discover	Introductory Award	N/A	N/A
Explore	Entry Level 3	Initial (Trinity College London)	N/A
Bronze	Level 1	1-3	GCSE Grades 1-4
Silver	Level 2	4-5	GCSE Grades 5-9
Gold	Level 3	6-8	AS Level (16 UCAS points)

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

First Access and ensembles, opportunities to play/sing and perform

Arts Award can capture progress in music making and encourage young people to reflect on their learning.



"Arts Award is a great way of supporting our Bollywood playing days, creating a place for children to make a note of their progress and what they have found out about music and musicians."

*Kay Charlton, Projects Manager,
Bollywood Brass Band*

Bollywood Brass Band have created an Arts Award Discover logbook as part of 'Whole Class Bollywood Blast!' a book of resources for First Access teaching (published by Spartan Press).

bollywoodbrassacademy.co.uk

Arts Award can be delivered by any school or music organisation that works directly with young people. Current Arts Award centres deliver groups, choirs, music ensembles, festivals, Gifted and Talented programmes, special schools, and those working with disabled young people. Freelance, peripatetic and private music teachers can train to be an Arts Award adviser for organisations they work with. Arts Award works e

Arts Award and music in practice

Progression

In a music context Arts Award's higher levels provide a framework for progression by asking young people to set their own music skills and leadership challenges, and build their knowledge of music education training and career opportunities.

"Across the years of us doing Bronze Arts Award, we have seen its benefits in many different ways - the amount of confidence, resilience, performance/ planning/team work skills we see develop is fantastic. We have a very wide range of abilities and we are also able to support our SEND students to work independently and successfully"

Helen Earl, Head of Music, Hollingworth Academy

Hollingworth Academy enters in excess of 260 students for Bronze Arts Award every year. They have designed their KS3 curriculum so that the award is embedded into music lessons and are able to ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to fully participate regardless of their ability.



"We found **Arts Award Discover** was an excellent way of not only assessing how the children were progressing, but also helped children gain a much wider understanding of music making than they would normally do in a whole-class practical music project."

*Mike Simpson, Musical Director
Inspire Works*

Workforce development

Being an Arts Award adviser offers teachers and music educators a new way of supporting young people to progress and achieve, and is suitable for a range of abilities and settings.

artsaward.org.uk/training

"Training as an Arts Award adviser has been beneficial in my personal development as an arts practitioner and a valuable addition to my CV."

Kate Dunstone, Arts Award Adviser.

Inspirational experiences

Arts Award connects young people with professional musicians and generates a love of music.

Inspire-works Inspire-works used Arts Award for two big projects; Road to Rio and Bang the Drum. Both projects involved over 1,600 children from 25 schools who spent a term learning drumming music to perform together in professional venues and gain a Guinness World Record!

g music-based Arts Award programmes include schools, colleges, Music Education Hubs, Music Services, Music Schools, musical theatre and those with special educational needs.

equally well with one-to-one tuition or large groups.

Inspire-works, photo: Joshua Earle Photography (top-left)

Support



artsaward.org.uk/contact

Our dedicated support team can provide phone and email advice to trained advisors

artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub

The Adviser hub is a website packed with case studies and resources to inspire and support you with planning, delivery and assessment of Arts Award

artsaward.org.uk/support

Face to face support is also available to all Arts Award advisers and can be requested on the hub

artsaward.org.uk/accessfundinfo

The Access Fund offers an opportunity to apply for a small grant to support the costs of your Arts Award project with young people facing challenges



artsaward.org.uk/bridges

Arts Council England's 10 Bridge organisations support the development of Arts Award within their region

artsaward.org.uk/supporter

Organisations which have registered as Arts Award Supporters offer activities, events, expertise or resources which help young people working towards their Arts Award



As an **Arts Award Supporter** Charanga provides a range of opportunities which can count toward an Arts Award, for example we are working with many music hubs who are supporting large numbers of Arts Award Discoverer."



Mark Burke,
Director, Charanga

Inspire-works, photo: Joshua Earle Photography (top right)



The music you want to play, the performer you want to be, the recognition you deserve

trinitycollege.com/music As well as Arts Award, our graded music exams in Classical and Jazz and Rock & Pop music are all designed to develop students' skills from Initial (pre Grade 1) all the way through to Grade 8 (Grades 6-8 carry UCAS points).

trinityrock.com Our Rock & Pop exams put performance first and offer real songs, real skills and real progress. Students can play the music they love from a huge range of contemporary styles, develop the improvisation and playback sessions skills professional musicians need and achieve their goals with an internationally recognised qualification.

**ROCK
& POP**

trinitycollege.com/cme Those looking to progress from musical leadership into teaching may be interested in working towards the Certificate for Music Educators. The CME aims to develop music practitioners' pedagogical knowledge and reflective practice as well as covering the topics of safeguarding and equality, diversity and inclusion.

Arts Award works with many partners

BBC Ten Pieces

bbc.co.uk/tenpieces



Arts Award and BBC Ten Pieces are working together to support schools who would like to deliver Arts Award's unique qualifications alongside their Ten Pieces project. It's a great way to recognise the creativity and engagement of students involved and earning an award can give students a great sense of achievement at the end of the process - and an added opportunity for schools to celebrate.

Friday Afternoons

fridayafternoonsmusic.co.uk

Friday Afternoons



Friday Afternoons is about encouraging young people to sing. Their newly commissioned songs and support material aim to help teachers develop their students' skills - as performers, listeners and composers. All resources are available on the website for free, including downloadable Friday Afternoons log books.

Take It Away

takeitaway.org.uk



Take it away offers interest free loans from £100 - £5,000 for musical instrument purchases for young people when they are bought from approved retailers. The loan makes it easier to afford an instrument and associated equipment by allowing you to spread the cost over either 9 or 18 months.

Sing up

singup.org



Sing Up aims to ensure that children and young people enjoy singing regularly and provides songs and teaching resources to support teachers to lead singing well in schools. Sing Up Day is an international annual singing event which is free to take part in. The supporting teacher and pupil pack includes a free, specially commissioned song and Arts Award Discover resources including information about the Sing Up Day song and the composer.

Voice

voicemag.uk



This youth arts magazine provides interviews with musicians, information about careers and listings. Young people can post their own reviews of concerts and gigs and get support and inspiration in the Arts Award on Voice section.

Youth Music

youthmusic.org.uk



Youth Music encourages organisations to embed Arts Award in their music programmes as an accessible way of accrediting young people's creative and leadership skills and to provide a framework for structuring programmes to ensure a focus on young people's progression. It also helps provide evidence of impact and more importantly, young people are supported in their next steps.

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