



PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY 2026/27

What is the Performing Arts Company

To become a student of the Academy's Performing Arts Company course is a real achievement and a privilege. For this 2026/27 Academic year **students must be 10-18 by 1st September 2026.**

The Performing Arts Company runs on Monday evenings from 6pm – 9pm.

This is the Academy's only audition-based course. As a result, the course is made up of students of a similarly high level of ability and dedication, working at a constantly high and somewhat more intense level. Students on this course are expected to have a strong, positive attitude towards their theatrical training. They will be treated as professionals and will be expected to be dedicated and take full advantage of this opportunity.

Places offered on the courses are for 1 Academic year. Towards the end of that year, existing students will be asked to re-audition alongside new students. Continuing on the Performing Arts Company course is not automatic and re-admittance will be based on the audition, the previous year's achievements, overall commitment to the course, to Simply Theatre and the ability to continue to develop at this level.

All students need to apply for a place on the course by first getting support from two of their existing performing arts teachers. If they believe that you are ready to audition then they will encourage you to complete and submit your form to be reviewed by the audition panel. If your teachers do not feel the Performing Arts Company is a suitable course for you to apply for at this time they will explain their reasons to you and give you goals to work towards over the coming year in your regular class. Successful candidates at this stage will then be invited to audition.

What does the course involve?

As with the Academy's other 'Performing Arts' courses, students will build upon their skills in the three disciplines of singing, dancing and acting on a weekly basis. There is, however, a larger emphasis on performance, and as such, many basic technique skills will need to already be present in prospective students.

Being on the Performing Arts Company course involves ensuring that you attend the course EVERY week. Weekly attendance is essential to ensure maximum benefit for all students and to achieve and maintain a high standard of teaching and performance as a 'company' and ensemble. Absence will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances and must be requested ahead of time. Continued absence will result in dismissal from the course.

Students will be expected to work with a professional attitude. This means always coming to classes well prepared and working on all elements of their training at home as well as in class.

Performing Arts Company students are expected to get actively involved with Academy events in whatever capacity required. This means auditioning for as many shows as students are able, helping out at the theatre wherever needed, promoting the shows etc. It means accepting roles in productions no matter the role offered (unless pre-agreed exemptions have been given). It also means being a reliable part of a 'company' of actors and working as part of an ensemble.

As with the other Performing Arts courses students will be expected to wear the official Performing Arts uniform and to take pride in this. They will be representing the Academy in both talent and attitude. Other students will naturally look up to them and therefore the example they are expected to set is to be exemplary.

What do we look for in a Performing Arts Company student?

As already mentioned, Performing Arts Company students are selected to represent the Academy. Therefore, selection is made very carefully based on the following criteria & attributes –

Ability & Talent – Students must demonstrate considerable strength in all three disciplines. Students must also demonstrate the potential to truly benefit and develop from this opportunity.

Attitude & Personality – Dedication is essential. Here are some of the key traits we will be looking for in Performing Arts Company students - The ability to focus and work hard; positive attitude; persistence; drive to achieve; consistency in attitude; self-motivation; passion; the desire to learn and develop; team players and the ambition within the student to reach their own full potential. A love of theatre and performing is essential, plus an understanding and knowledge of Simply Theatre Academy and the desire to be a positive and passionate ambassador / role model for the Academy. Attitude to class on your existing course (attendance, motivation, attitude etc) will also be considered.

Achievements – Previous achievements will certainly be taken into account. These may take the form of achievements in class, on stage, backstage as well as those experiences and achievements which have taken place outside of the Academy. Also, external recognition via LAMDA examinations and other relevant performance-based exams will be important elements to mention on the application form.

What is the criteria and how to apply?

- For the Performing Arts Company, applicants must be aged between 10-18 yrs of age by 1st September 2026.
- Applicants for these courses should already be registered PA Academy students and should have already completed at least one year at the Academy. Occasionally this rule may be waived in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Academy. Applicants must also have successfully auditioned for and taken part in at least one Academy production or must have attended Simply Theatre classes for a minimum of 4 consecutive years.
- Students must personally complete the attached application form in full, by hand, and must have the permission of a parent guardian in the form of a signature at the end of the form.
- All application forms must be received by end of the day on 20th April at the latest.
- All applications will be considered by the audition panel and successful applicants will be invited to attend a group audition on 26th April from 5.30pm – 8.30pm. All applicants will be notified as to whether they will be invited to audition or not via email by the evening of 22nd April.

What format will the audition take?

For the audition, candidates will be invited to prepare and perform a monologue and a musical theatre song of their own choice, lasting a maximum of 90 seconds each. A group dance combination will also be taught.

When will I find out if I have a place?

We will let all applicants know the outcome of their audition by 1st May at the latest. When completing their application form for next year, applicants must give a second course choice to be taken in the event that a place on this course is not granted this time. If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to contact nickmills@simplytheatre.com.

This form must be completed BY HAND, scanned and emailed to nickmills@simplytheatre.com.
If you don't have access to a scanner, we suggest you use an app such as 'Genius Scan' which is free on android and apple stores.

PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY	2026/27
APPLICATION FORM	
Student's Full Name: _____	ACCEPTED
Date of Birth: ____/____/____	CONDITIONAL
Academy Course Attended at Present: _____	DECLINED
Simply Theatre Teacher Sponsors: _____	

• How long have you been a student at the Academy? _____

• Please state your reason(s) for applying and what you hope to gain by becoming a student of this course?



- What would you say are your strengths and weaknesses as a performer?

- Please list all previous stage and training experiences both within and outside the Academy

- Other out of school activities and commitments

- As a Performing Arts Company student you will be expected to place this commitment above all other out of school activities and commitments. You (or your parents) will also be expected to monitor your emails and reply to any communication from us within 48 hours without exception. Would this be a problem for you?

- What do you like most about Simply Theatre Academy?

- Finally, please explain to why we should choose you to join this course and represent the Academy. Please comment on your personal attributes as a student and performer, plus your future ambitions in life both on and off the stage. If you are a previous member of The Performing Arts Company, please use this section to also reflect on your year on the course (for example what you think you have achieved, what you wish to achieve in the future and what you would have changed)





STUDENT CONTRACT

I have read the information pack and fully understand the commitment I would be making if I were to be offered a place on this course and the expectations placed on me.

(Students Signature) _____

I have read the information pack and fully understand the commitment my child would be making if they were to be offered a place on this course and the expectations placed on them.

Parent / Guardians Name (Please Print) _____

Signature of Parent named above _____

If I am not chosen this year, my 2nd course preference is _____

Section 2 (to be completed by the audition panel)

Notes / Comments

Any further action / follow up required:

Course Place: Offer Conditional Offer Declined

Section 3 (to be completed by the office)

Approved for consideration by: _____

Date: _____ Processed by (staff name) _____

Other Info: _____