



Beginners, Please!



"The children were inspired."

Teachers comment about the 16/17 project

Take Part

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**WILTSHIRE
CREATIVE**

incorporating

**SALISBURY
ARTS CENTRE**

**SALISBURY
INTERNATIONAL
ARTS FESTIVAL**

**SALISBURY
PLAYHOUSE**



Beginners, Please!

We run *Beginners, Please!* for Key Stages 1 and 2. The project has been celebrated by both HRH Prince of Wales and HM the Queen.

Beginners, Please! delivers curriculum and social development through Wiltshire Creative shows, artists, technicians and creative skills. Pupils enjoy workshops, professional productions and create their own performances.

It also offers **unique teacher CPD** for participating schools through observing external practitioners working with their children.

Beginners, Please! is available in an easy menu format. You choose components to benefit one or more classes, picking the number and type of activities to suit your budget, timetable and location.

- Choose a specific class for a complete project **OR** Spread activities and costs across several classes
- Spread activities across the year **OR** Compress activities into shorter time periods (e.g. mini-projects or Arts Weeks)

Workshops are delivered on **Mondays, Wednesdays** and **Fridays** at a time to suit the school – either within the school day or as an extra curricular activity.

Costs

We know how tight school budgets are and the barriers caused by financial constraints, that's why the cost of the project remains the same as it did in 2014!

This can be funded by schools in whatever way fits: parental contribution, PTA donations through fundraising activities, or charging parents for tickets to the Summer performance are just some ways that schools have funded the project previously.

Costs are per class up to 30 pupils. *Beginners, Please!* starts at £200 for 3 activities with additional activities at £50 each.

Basic Project: 3 activities £200
4 activities at £250
5 activities at £300
6 activities at £350... and so on

The *Beginners, Please!* project is a great way to develop literacy skills, enhance learning in other curriculum areas and to develop social skills and resilience.

If you would like to know more information, please contact the Take Part Department on 01722 343028 or email us on takepart@wiltshirecreative.co.uk

Menu of Activities

Workshops are held in school OR at Salisbury Playhouse depending on their content.

In-school workshops

1. What's a Theatre?

Pupils are introduced to Salisbury Playhouse using a scale model of the building to examine the jobs in the various departments within the theatre. They handle examples of props and costumes as well as testing some professional fake blood!

2. Technical Drama Workshop

For young people to increase their theatre knowledge and how a production comes together, particularly beneficial for those with less desire for performance. Workshops include costume, set design, and developing sound effects for a script.

3. Book Week

MARCH

Choose your favourite class book and we will come into schools and deliver a workshop exploring characters, themes or events from your chosen story.

4. Creative Drama Workshop

Practical activities developing performance skills. These workshops can be based on a specific curriculum area or theme, or using a one-off stimulus to create character and communication skills. These focuses can include; Historical topics, Physical Theatre, Shakespeare...etc

5. Performance Preparation Workshop

These sessions are used to help develop a special Beginners Please! performance for the July showcase or for an in-school performance. We recommend you have one of these sessions if you choose to be involved in the July showcase in the Salberg so that you can ensure your performance makes the most of the performance space, our staff are familiar with your show and can ensure your technical requirements are met and delivered to give your students a professional experience on the day.

"It was great to have workshops tailored to our performance"

Teachers comment about the 16/17 project

Activities and performances at the Salisbury Playhouse

6. Backstage Tour

A perfect follow up to What's a Theatre? Pupils see the theatre at work, engage with staff, explore the stages and see how a production is developed backstage.

7. Pantomime Performance

DECEMBER & JAN

Tickets are available at a supplementary price of £5 per person (pupils and adults) at selected performances (to be confirmed).

8. Theatre for Young People

USUALLY SPRING TERM

A production specifically for younger audiences in the intimate studio space, useful as a contrast to the pantomime and for groups taking part in a final Salberg Showcase. This is a very affordable way to provide children with access to professional live theatre.

Beginners, Please! Summer Performances at Salisbury Playhouse **(both options must be selected)**

10. Showcase Rehearsals

USUALLY JUNE/JULY

Dress and Technical Rehearsals in the Salberg space to make sure performances and technical aspects run smoothly. Essential for building confidence of pupils and staff with Wiltshire Creative Technicians. Small groups of pupils can be involved in the technical operation of the show (lighting, sound or stage managers).

11. Showcase Performances

USUALLY JUNE/JULY

Groups perform to friends and family at Salisbury Playhouse. Groups can transfer work that may have been made for school, or Creative Workshops are used to create special 15-20 mins performances. Schools can charge for these events and thus raise money for the project.

Complementary Extras:

Staff Planning Meetings and Theatre tickets

All class teachers working on the project are offered 2 planning meetings during the year as well as enjoying a FREE pair of tickets to see a Main House production. These must be booked a month in advance through the Creative Learning Officer.

A late cancellation charge may be made if reserved tickets are not collected.

Arts Award and Artsmark

Enhance and deepen the *Beginners, Please!* learning experience by delivering a nationally recognised qualification at the same time.

School Staff can be trained as Advisers or Wiltshire Creative practitioners can lead on assessment. If you would like the *Beginners, Please!* programme to lead to an Arts Award qualification we are happy to discuss how it will fit in your setting with you.

Arts Awards are nationally recognised qualifications accredited by Trinity College London, learners work to their own level enabling all to achieve. To find out more about Arts Award, support opportunities and training visit their website at www.artsaward.org.uk

Artsmark is awarded by Arts Council England, and designed by schools. The new Artsmark award will help schools to deliver a high quality arts and cultural education and provides an excellent way to demonstrate this.

Beginners, Please! activity supports the Artsmark process. Contact us for more information about Artsmark or visit www.Artsmark.org.uk

“This is the best project I have ever done with my Year 4! The exciting and varied opportunities that came from the entire project, gave them a wonderful insight into life in the Theatre, and left them with an immeasurable lust for all aspects of putting on a play. It never ceased to amaze me how engaged they were throughout, and what wonderful input they were able to have in their own performance.”

Teachers comment about the 15/16 project





“one of the children’s highlights of the year. Children felt very proud of their play and enjoyed all the lights and sound effects to make their play ‘professional’”
Teachers comment about the 15/16 project

Wiltshire Creative is a Registered Arts & Educational Charity 249169



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