



INFORMATION ABOUT DISNEY MUSICALS IN SCHOOLS

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

- Create sustainable musical theatre provision in London primary schools.
- Provide teachers with the training and necessary tools to put on student productions and to empower them to do so.
- Develop a critical awareness and appreciation of the arts within schools.
- Develop strong school communities, including students, parents, teachers, governors and the wider school community.
- Expose students, teachers and non-teaching staff to the wide spectrum of skills that are developed when producing a musical theatre production, including critical thinking, problem solving, ensemble building, speaking and listening, self-confidence, and interpersonal skills.

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Between 30 and 60 children from Years 4 to 6 performing and helping backstage
- A minimum of 4 teachers who will commit to 17 weeks of rehearsals
- Volunteers, parents and the wider school community.

PRORAMME OVERVIEW

Orientation: The programme begins with a twilight Teacher CPD for the School Team.

Rehearsal Period: Taking place over 17 weeks (from mid-October until March)

Each week 2 x 90-minute rehearsals will take place at the school.

1) 2 teaching artists will come in to lead one 90-minute rehearsal with participating students and the full School Team.

2) The School Team will lead the other 90-minute rehearsal with participating students (no Teaching Artists). The Teaching Artists will support the teachers in planning rehearsal schedules and the content of the additional rehearsals.



School Shows: At the end of the process, your students perform their production for your school community

Student Share: Finally, your Staff Team and students come along to perform in the Student Share event at the Lyceum Theatre, alongside the other schools involved in the programme, to an invited audience of parents, carers and school guests.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING

- Teachers develop a range of practical skills: directing, musical directing, choreographing, scheduling, rehearsing, and production-based.
- Students increase in confidence, teamwork, fitness, artistic performance and literacy skills.
- Schools bring their whole school community together through a shared creative endeavour.
- Schools develop new cultures of learning that can impact behaviour, attendance, an increased enthusiasm for learning, and an improved sense of well-being.

SCHOOLS WILL RECEIVE:

- A free performance licence (rights valid for one year) to a 30-minute Disney KIDS musical of their choosing. Shows include Aladdin, The Lion King, The Jungle Book, The Aristocrats, Winnie the Pooh, Finding Nemo and Frozen.
- Free Show Kit materials to aid teachers in producing, directing, music directing and choreographing the show, including a director's guide, musical director's guide, student scripts, cross-curricular activities, accompaniment, links to rehearsal music, and ideas for choreography.
- Free in-school support from professional Teaching Artists. Two experienced Disney Teaching Artists will provide regular support over the 17 weeks, leading up to an in-school production of a Disney musical. The Teaching Artists will also serve as creative advisers who will train and empower the School Team to mount productions for themselves in future years.
- A performance opportunity on stage in the West End. The selected schools will participate in a Disney Musicals in Schools Student Share, where each school will share an extract from their production.



SCHOOLS WILL BE REQUIRED TO:

- Produce a minimum of one public performance of a full 30-minute Disney KIDS musical production.
- Commit to a 17-week rehearsal period, as an after-school activity.
- Host 2 x 90-minute rehearsals per week over a period of 17 weeks. One rehearsal session per week led by Disney Teaching Artists and the School Team, the other led exclusively by the School Team.
- Identify a School Team of 4 teachers and staff members who will partner with the Disney Teaching Artists and oversee the programme from beginning to end.
- Ensure that all the School Team attends the required CPD workshop.
- Provide space, time, materials, and resources for pupils to rehearse and prepare for the production.
- Participate in the culminating Student Share event in the West End (this will involve making appropriate travel arrangements and permissions for participating students).

THREE YEAR PROGRAMME

Participating schools will receive various levels of support over a three-year period. Since the goal of Disney Musicals in Schools is to create a sustainable performing arts programme, schools will be expected to participate in the day long CPD opportunities offered in Year 2 and 3 and will be encouraged to continue to produce their own musical theatre productions with support from Disney Theatrical Productions. Below is a list of what each recipient school receives if chosen for the 3-year programme

YEAR 1 = 1x free performance license and Show Kit materials to a Disney Kids show of their choice, free in school support from two Teaching Artists for 17 sessions and an opportunity to perform one number from their musical at the Disney Musical in Schools Student Share.

YEAR 2 = 1x free performance license and Show Kit materials to a Disney Kids show of their choice, free CPD workshop and continued guidance from the Disney Musical in Schools team.

YEAR 3 = A 50% discount towards a performance license and Show Kit of their choice (should you choose to produce another Disney KIDS show), free CPD workshop and continued guidance from the Disney Musical in Schools team.



PROGRAMME COST:

- It is free for the selected schools to participate in the programme.
- In their first year the schools will receive free performance licences, Show Kit materials, support from Teaching Artists and West End performance opportunities.
- Schools will however need to allow for teachers' time (at least three hours weekly to be dedicated to rehearsal, and there will be additional time required for planning, managing rehearsal schedules, managing parent volunteers and for arranging the Student Share trip etc.)
- In addition to this, schools may need to set aside a production budget to go towards any costumes or props. This can be as modest or as lavish as you can afford.

HOW TO APPLY:

There is a two-part application process.

- 1) We ask you initially to complete and submit an application form, so we can select the schools who are best able to host the programme and benefit most from it.
- 2) We will then shortlist up to 10 schools and visit each school to meet with the senior leadership team and School Teams that would be involved in the programme to ensure that the school has the capacity to host the programme, and to sustain the learning over 3 years.

Proposed Disney Musicals in Schools Timeline:

Feb 2026 Applications Open

Wed 22nd April 2026 Application Deadline

May 2026 School Interviews

June 2026 Applicants notified of status

October 2026 - March 2027: Rehearsal Period (17 weeks)

March 2027: School Performances

March 2027: Disney Musicals in Schools Student Share Celebration

(All dates to TBC once applications are open)

If you have any questions about Disney Musicals in Schools - London programme, or if you wish to discuss your application further please email Felicity, our Disney Musicals In Schools Project Coordinator at theatreeducationuk@disney.co.uk