



PRIME
T H E A T R E

Prime Theatre

What is Prime Theatre?

Prime Theatre was first known as Sixth Sense Theatre Arts and established in 1986 with the idea to increase young people's awareness about issues which affect their lives, through the medium of theatre.

Sixth Sense begins creating touring productions for young people each year, all either new writing or new adaptations. The productions visit infant, junior, primary or secondary schools.

In 2016 they changed their name for the 30th anniversary as part of a relaunch. They are currently based in the Wyvern Theatre.

What do we do?

Prime Theatre's role as a small-scale professional theatre company is directed towards:

- 1. theatre productions for young people (0-25 years old is the Arts Council definition)
- 2. youth theatre
- 3. outreach and education

Young person referred to programme either by themselves or an adult

They meet with Prime Staff to explore their interests and ideas. They co-design a programme of activity which might include:

Arts Award and 1-2-1 Mentoring



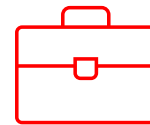
Young Arts Leaders



Youth Theatre



Work Experience



One-off projects



Mentoring and Arts Award



What is Arts Award?

- Nationally recognised qualifications in the Arts.
- Upper levels are equivalent to GCSE and A Level qualifications.
- Non-competitive, measure effort and progress.
- Do not require written work.
- Can reward activity already being undertaken outside of the curriculum
- No fixed time-frame, only entered for moderation when participant is ready.

What does Arts Award involve?

- Vary by level, at all levels they set themselves Art challenges to be achieved with guidance from specialist, meet and interview professional artists, review arts events, and share their art work.
- At the higher levels they also share opinions on art issues, participate in work experience, design art events and share their art work
- Great opportunities to be published in Arts Award Magazine, make connections with professional artists and companies and gain experience

Mentoring and Arts Award



How does it work?

Young people meet in person or on ZOOM with an Arts Award Advisor on a weekly/fortnightly basis. They can also meet with specialist Arts Practitioners to help develop their specific arts interest.

Current Stories

- 10 participants receiving weekly mentoring with Prime Staff in theatre-related Arts and Arts Award.
- One participant working 1-2-1 with a professional rapper to develop first track, to be debuted at community radio.
- One participant working 1-2-1 with professional children's author to draft first novel.
- 5 Bronze Arts Awards, 3 Silver Awards and 2 Gold Awards completed so far this year.
- 14 articles published on Voice Magazine



Young Arts Leaders

- 14-25 year olds
- Fortnightly meetings, currently on ZOOM but hybrid from September
- Create Arts events, trips to meet professionals/see art events, advocate for young people to Arts & Heritage organizations
- Young people chair and run meetings as a collective

Previous Projects

- A Storytelling Festival in February Half-Term, on commission by National Literacy Trust
- A Free Summer Arts Festival including an art exhibition, film club and professional workshops.
- Free February Arts Festival held online during Covid lockdown in 2021, more than 300 participants attended.

Youth Theatre

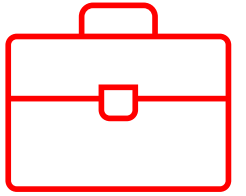


- Open to ages 7-25
- Workshops are at the Wyvern Theatre or Drove Primary School on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Our professionally-led, fun-filled workshops include all levels of drama exercises and theatre training. Everyone is invited to make friends, build confidence, learn how to express themselves, grow social skills and empower their creative voices.
- Saturday Workshops for SEND young people, led by Sue Welsh, former Drama teacher at Crowdys Hill

Recent Projects

- *When This Is Over*, performed at Swindon Arts Centre, was devised, written and teched by young people aged 8-25

Work Experience



- Flexible, can be a tour of the theatre, a day, week, month of activity.
- Partnered with Arts & Heritage orgs across Swindon so we can find opportunity that is right for the young person.

Current Stories

- 1 young person going to work at Wyvern Theatre for 3 weeks as Assistant Director on Legally Blonde.
- 1 young person undertaken work experience at Drove Primary School for 3 months and Prime Office for 7 months (+ counting) after support with Bus Training.
- 1 participant trained on Kickstart placement and now part-time staff at Prime Theatre.
- Upcoming opportunities in partnership Swindon and Wiltshire History Centre & Artsite.

Feedback from Participants

‘Life changing in the best of ways. . . Socially, mentally and physically’ – **Arts Award and Youth Theatre participant**

‘A much-needed outlet after having a very difficult time in education. . . It gives him a lift and helps with his confidence. . . Invaluable.’ – **Parent of a participant**

‘While I’m looking for a job it gets me out of bed in the morning, I would be lost without it.’ – **Arts Award participant**

‘I’ve watched his confidence grow, he’s become a mature and nurturing adult and I’ve seen him do things I never thought he could do.’ – **Parent of a participant**