

# How to use your children's Lewisham Live experience as part of Arts Award Discover

## What is Arts Award?

Four qualifications and an introductory award for ages 5 - 25 years. Arts Award can be delivered in schools, cultural organisations, youth clubs, libraries etc. Arts Award is managed by [Trinity College London](#) in association with Arts Council England working with 10 regional bridge organisations.

The Arts Award qualifications are designed to inspire learners up to the age of 25 to grow their arts and leadership talents. Most of all, they aim to support and encourage learners of all levels and abilities and from all backgrounds and cultures to engage and participate in the arts. From the initial Arts Award Discover level, all the way through to Gold Arts Award, these qualifications offer a variety of ways to approach creative and wider skills development that can be tailored to the centre, adviser and learners.

Through Arts Award, learners will achieve a national qualification that will build confidence through nurturing their individual interests, while also equipping them with life skills that will support their education and future employment. [Find out more about Arts Award here.](#)

## About Arts Award Discover

[Arts Award Discover](#) is an introductory award open to children and young people aged up to 25.

### Aims of the qualification

Arts Award Discover aims to encourage learners to develop a basic understanding of a range of art forms, to commit to taking part in arts activities, and to develop a basic understanding of communication. Learners do this through identifying that a range of art forms make up the arts, taking part in different arts activities, finding out about artists and their work and sharing their arts discoveries with others. They create a personal arts log (portfolio) to record their experiences in a format of their choice. Arts Award Discover provides a foundation to enable learners to be introduced to the arts and is a springboard to other levels of Arts Award.

## Achieving Arts Award Discover

To achieve an Arts Award Discover, children and young people collect evidence in an individual arts log of their experiences of:

- participating in arts activities
- researching artists and their work
- sharing their arts discoveries

There are 3 parts to the Award:

### ***Part A: discover***

- understanding of how the arts encompasses a range of art forms from the familiar to the unfamiliar
- participation in a range of arts activities
- understanding of how art forms connect to their own lives

### ***Part B: find out***

- knowledge of at least one artist and their work

### ***Part C: share***

- what they enjoyed and learnt through the award
- how they shared their experience with others

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## Arts Award delivery

### Arts Award advisers

Advisers must have successfully completed a training course relevant to the level they wish to run and be engaged by a centre. They can then support learners to work towards their award and act as mentors and/or facilitators. Advisers enable learners to access the required activities and support them to organise their evidence of participation in their arts logs. Arts Award advisers are also the internal assessors of the learners' work and are responsible for assessing it using the framework and assessment criteria in the Arts Award manual (known as the Toolkit). For Arts Award Discover, advisers submit learners' details and the results of their assessment. This decision is accepted as final unless there is an issue identified with the centre.

Learners can work at their own pace for this qualification and they record their progress in an arts log. This provides the evidence for the adviser to assess. Arts logs can be created in any format.

To pass this award, learners are required to create an individual arts log which demonstrates how they meet the following requirements:

- their participation in arts activities
- their research into artists and their work
- the sharing of their arts discovery

## How taking part in Lewisham Live can contribute to achieving Arts Award Discover

### Case studies

#### **CASE STUDY 1: St Augustine's RC primary School**

Arts Awards Advisors: Clare Caddick (Lewisham Music Borough Singing Leader) and Maxine Walcott (class teacher and Arts Co-ordinator)

Staff involved: Choir leader, Singing Leader, Theatre Manager, Theatre Organist

Focus: To give 35 children from the St Augustine's School Choir aged 7-11 an enhanced experience around their performance at Live Voices on 8<sup>th</sup> March at The Broadway Theatre, Catford, part of Lewisham Live.

#### **Part A: Discover**

The choir had begun preparing a solo item for the concert and a group song for the massed choir finale with their choir leader and were having weekly rehearsals. The Singing Leader of Lewisham Music visited the choir and told the children that they were going to have the chance to take their Discover Arts Awards in conjunction with their performance at Lewisham Live. The children sang their songs and then had an hour-long session to discover what it takes to put on a big concert such as Live Voices. The children worked as one and in smaller groups with large sheets of paper and marker pens. Through guided discussion and group work, all elements of organising the concert were explored, from booking the venue, theatre technical staff, band, conductor, gathering the performers, presentation, communication, marketing, lighting, sound, ticket sales, security, health and safety and even risk assessments. This really made the children think and appreciate the amount of work and that goes around organising arts opportunities.

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The children started their arts logs with photos of their notes on the large sheets and the white board after the discussion. They also stuck in a small poster advertising the concert and made notes of their own. Some also did illustrations of how they thought their performance would look on stage.

### **Part B: Find Out**

On the day of the concert, the children came for a rehearsal in the morning at the theatre. They rehearsed their song and watched some other groups rehearsing. After lunch, they were given a tour by the Theatre Manager of the Broadway Theatre. During this interesting tour, they were shown around the Art Deco building and were shown historical features. They came to understand the Art Deco style and sketched details as they went around. They were taken backstage and shown all the technical equipment including lighting, sound desk, rigging etc. The theatre has a rare Compton Theatre Organ which is still used regularly, and the children were taken up to the pipe room which is above the stage to see all the unusual instruments which are operated by the organ in the auditorium such as the car hooter, drums and xylophones. The children asked questions and wrote notes and continued sketching in their arts logs.



When the children returned in the evening, the theatre organist and repairer gave a Q and A on the instrument and his own interesting career working in business and he demonstrated what the instrument could do much to the children's amazement. The children had prepared questions to ask in advance of the day. The children were also encouraged to describe how the music made them feel when they were listening to the organ.

The children went to their dressing rooms and prepared for their own performances. They sang beautifully to a packed audience and went home tired and happy.

### **Part C: Share**

The choir led a whole school assembly, demonstrating their Arts Awards journey. They performed their songs and showed their work. Every child spoke individually, and arts logs were available to view by parents and children. The children were awarded their certificates and accepted them with pride.

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## CASE STUDY 2: Prendergast Primary School

Arts Awards Advisors: Miriam Wakeling (Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance – music facilitator and freelance practitioner)

Staff involved: Arts Award Advisor and Cellist, Theatre Manager and class teachers

Focus: To give 20 children from reception, year 1 and year 2 an enhanced experience around their performance at Live Dance in March 2017 at The Broadway Theatre, Catford, part of Lewisham Live.

### **Part A: Discover**

For the first session the children were asked to *'bring an object from home and discuss in the group how it relates to Art/ what is Art and what does it mean to us in our everyday lives.'* Their Arts Award Advisor, Miriam, also performed on her cello for the group. This was designed as an introduction to the Arts Award elements and for the children to get to know Miriam. The children enjoyed the session and liked speaking about their chosen object in front of the group within the bounds of their age. The participants were very young and the advisor acknowledged the challenges of delivering the Award with such young children.

On the day of Live Dance, the young performers managed to do a bit of a tour of the theatre and were encouraged to spot artistic pieces around the theatre to draw into their arts logs. Miriam commented, *'I think this was a great extra addition to the day for the students.'* The children also completed their technical rehearsal and returned in the evening to perform their dance piece to an audience of 600. This was an enormous achievement for such young children.

Their Arts Award Advisor also took many pictures of the dance rehearsal and having all these printed out for the students to cut out and insert into their arts logs worked really well. It gave them a chance to:

- 1) Feel proud of their performance
- 2) Reflect on their performance

### **Part B: Find Out**

The participants were tasked with researching an artist at home and bringing in some information. Some children needed additional support with this.

### **Part C: Share**

The children shared their experiences to their peers, teachers, families and special guests such as Veronica Jobbins, Head of Learning and Participation (Dance), Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance.

The sharing was a great success and a good opportunity for the children to reflect on what they had accomplished. They had worked very hard to complete their arts logs and this was a chance to share their logs with pride. Speaking to such a large group of guests, including many adults, was a little daunting for some but with support and coaxing they were able to express what they had enjoyed and learnt through the award.

***'The children have so enjoyed their time as learners, audience and performers and we're really proud of their achievements' quote from Jill Palliser - teacher***