

BURSARY, FREE PLACES & SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

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1. Bursaries

- 1.1 People unable to afford the full Participation Class fees, Participation Holiday Activity fees or Performance Company fees may make an application for a bursary to help with the costs.
- 1.2 Bursary Applications may be made for a 25%, 50% or 75% deduction in fees. In a small number of instances, bursaries for 100% of fees may be granted.
- 1.3 There are a finite number of bursaries available per Participation Class, Participation Holiday Activity and Performance Company. Bursaries are given on a first come first served basis at the discretion of the trust.
- 1.4 Allocated Participation Class and Performance Company bursaries will finish the end of the academic year they relate to, regardless of when during the year they were agreed. Holiday Activity bursaries will relate to a specific activity and finish on completion of the activity.
- 1.5 Participants will need to reapply for ongoing support with the cost of fees for the next academic year or for additional holiday activity.
- 1.6 Bursary Forms are available to download from the website or collect in person from the main reception.
- 1.7 Bursaries may not be applied to any Class fees, Holiday Activity fees or Performance Company fees retrospectively.
- 1.8 Places on any programme of activity will not be confirmed until the bursary has been agreed
- 1.9 The Garage Trust will not means test any application for bursaries; we rely on the honesty of those making applications as to the need for financial support. Please first consider if our 10% discounted place could be a viable option.
- 1.10 Please note that having once been in receipt of a bursary does not guarantee future allocation.
- 1.11 The Trust reserves the right to revoke the bursary if attendance on the activity is not high.

2. Free Places for Performance Companies & GCSE Students

- 2.1 Performers who have a place in a Performance Company and Students signed up to one of our GCSE Courses may be offered a 'free' place on a Participation Class or Performance Company where we have suitable 'free' place availability.
- 2.2 Acceptance onto some of our Performance Companies is by audition, if this is the case, performers or students must have had a successful audition to be able to use their 'free' place for the company.
- 2.3 'Free' places are limited to 1 per person, regardless of how many Performance Companies a participant is part of, or GCSE's courses they are signed up to.
- 2.4 Those in receipt of a bursary or scholarship may still receive their 'free' place in addition to their bursary or scholarship.
- 2.5 The aim of the 'free' places is to provide additional support to develop technique & performance skills so that the standard of the work produced by our Performance Companies and GCSE cohorts continues to rise.
- 2.6 Performers, Students and their Tutor should discuss which class is the most appropriate to help them develop their skills and technique. This may not always be the class that they would most like to do, but one which will improve their performance skills.
- 2.7 It is important to note that each Participation Class and Performance Company has a finite number of 'free' places available; therefore, it may not be possible to offer a Performer or Student what would be their first choice of a free place.
- 2.8 If there is no 'free' space availability there is the option for the Performer or Student to pay for the class if 'paid' is space available.
- 2.9 The Trust reserves the right to revoke the 'free' place if the Performer or Student does not have high levels of attendance on their 'free' place allocation.

3. Scholarships

- 3.1 Scholarships are relevant to our Education Programme and must be applied for by online form where the applicant must outline their position of need.
- 3.2 Scholarship interviews are held with a panel comprising the CEO, Education Manager and a member of the Board of Trustees. The panel will want to interview the learner applying for the scholarship, not the parents/guardians. However, parents/guardians are welcome to attend the interview if they wish.
- 3.3 Post Scholarship Panel Interview, the Head of Participation will inform the applicant of the outcome of the interview.
- 3.4 If the applicant is unsuccessful, the Trust will signpost them towards additional sources of support for course fees.

4. Monitoring and Review

This policy was last updated on 16th July 2025 and will be reviewed and republished no longer than three years after this date.