

Shenfield High School Junior Performing Arts Academy Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is the Junior Performing Arts Academy and who is it for?

The Junior Performing Arts Academy is a place where students who are passionate about all areas of the performing arts can further hone their skills. The academy is for students who love performing to a live audience and have a talent and passions in all three performing arts disciplines – drama, dance and singing.

2. How does my son / daughter gain a place in the Junior Performing Arts Academy?

Students are to submit three self-audition tapes showcasing their abilities in singing, dancing and acting. These are to include:

- A dramatic monologue from a published play (no longer than 1 minute 30 seconds)
- A song in a style of their choice (no longer than 1 minute 30 seconds).
- A dance in a style of their choice (no longer than 1 minute 30 seconds).

Students must submit these self-tapes along with a supporting application form by Monday 9th October 2023 at 3.00pm.

Please see the school website to download an application forms and for further information on how to submit videos and who to.

3. What happens if my son/daughter is successful in round 1 of the auditions?

Successful candidates will be invited to attend a bootcamp on Saturday 14th October 2023 at 9.30am.

3. What is the point of the aptitude auditions?

Admission by aptitude auditions have two functions:

- To give an opportunity to attend Shenfield for those students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to gain admission.
- To give information to the school about a student's aptitude for performing arts so that the student has the opportunity to be considered for the Performing Arts Academy.

4. How will my child be assessed?

A score is awarded based on a set of criteria for each Performing Arts discipline. Following the second round of auditions, you will receive a letter stating whether their performance was OUTSTANDING, VERY GOOD, GOOD or PROFICIENT. An assessment of OUTSTANDING will indicate that your child's performance was in the top 12 performances.

5. Will all students be called for the second round of auditions?

No, the students with the strongest applications and self-tapes will be called for bootcamp auditions.

6. Does my son / daughter need to be proficient in all three disciplines to gain a place in the academy?

No, the Junior Performing Arts Academy is for gifted singers, dancers and actors. A student may be stronger in one discipline. HOWEVER, to be successful in the

academy members need to have an interest and a foundation level of skill in all three areas and be eager to develop their skills further.

7. What are the benefits of joining the Performing Arts Academy?

Four performing arts sessions a week outside of their normal school timetable as well as professional workshops, live performance opportunities, trips to see live productions and one-to-one audition guidance.

8. When will I find out if my child is being called for the second round of auditions?

The deadline for applications is Monday 9th October 2023 at 3.00pm. Once the Junior Performing Arts Academy team have viewed all audition material, all applicants will receive an **email** on Wednesday 11th October 2023 informing them whether their application has been successful or not and if they are invited to attend round 2 of the auditions. Successful applicants will be called to boot camp auditions on Saturday 14th October 2023 at 9.30am. Students will be given information on the timings of the day at this point but we recommend you keep the audition date and morning free.

9. What if I can't make the date of the second round of auditions?

Apply in the usual way but make a note on the application. If we would like to see your child again, we will then call to attempt to arrange an alternative date.

10. When will we find out the result of the final audition?

All candidates will receive an email from Shenfield High School no later than Friday 20th October 2023. You will be contacted by Essex in March to say whether you have gained a place at Shenfield High School.

11. Does my child still need to audition even if they are likely to get a place at the school (meet higher admission criteria)?

Yes, all students wanting to be a part of the Junior Performing Arts Academy are invited to audition. Students who do the aptitude tests may gain admission to the school through another criterion on our Admissions Criteria but by doing the aptitude test you are demonstrating your talent and indicating that you would like to be part of the Junior Performing Arts Academy if you get a place in the school.

12. How many Junior Performing Arts Academy places will be offered to Year 6 students joining SHS in September 2023:

There are 14 available places in the September 2023 intake to the Junior Performing Arts Academy. Up to 12 of these places will be allocated through the aptitude auditions.

**If you have any further questions please feel free to email Mrs Richardson – Lead Teacher: Junior Performing Arts Academy:
h.richardson@shenfield.essex.sch.uk**

