



*"My son has enjoyed every minute and talked about the project all year at home"*



*"Fantastic teamwork, the whole class involved equally. Brilliant"*

*"I have never seen such a unique performance put on in a primary school"*



*"I learned to be brave and speak in front of everyone"*



*"I'm so proud of our class because all our hard work paid off"*



**Y P P T**

YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
PUPPET THEATRE

## Puppet projects: the basics

- Creative, challenging projects
- Primary school projects for Y5 or Y6
- Secondary school projects for Y7-Y13
- 20-40 pupils per project
- Multiple projects for multi-form schools
- Proven to particularly help Pupil Premium students
- Costs can be as little as £30/student for the whole project thanks to our subsidy programme.
- Boost confidence, resilience and independence
- Boost engagement and motivation with learning
- Teach teamwork and communication skills
- Teach creative, technical, practical, artistic and performance skills
- Links across the curriculum



Could we make a difference for your pupils?

**Get in touch!**

## YPPT projects

### Part 1: puppetmaking

Every pupil designs and makes their own marionette from scratch. We provide all art materials and resources. 13-14 weekly workshops of about 2 hours.



### Part 2: set design

Pupils work in small groups to design and paint large backdrops, and build furniture and props. We provide all art materials and resources. 6 weekly workshops of about 2 hours.

### Part 3: rehearsals and performances

All roles in the show are covered by the pupils, from puppetry and voice acting to lighting, sound, stage management and special effects. We provide a professional stage with a full DMX lighting rig and any other technology needed (e.g. speakers/mics if you don't have them). Ends with performances to the school/parents which are also livestreamed and/or videoed. Usually taught in a concentrated rehearsal period, or in weekly sessions with a few extra days.



## Typical schedule

### Primary school projects

Autumn term: puppetmaking, weekly workshops

Spring 1: set design, weekly workshops

Spring 2: EITHER weekly rehearsals OR break to focus on SATs

Spring 2/Summer 1: Year 5 classes rehearse and perform

Summer 2: Year 6 classes rehearse and perform

*NB instead of weekly workshops, you can have “puppet weeks” e.g. a puppetmaking week in Autumn term, set design week in Spring, rehearsal/performance week in Summer.*



### Secondary school projects

Up to you! We run secondary school projects within curriculum-time art and drama lessons, or as extra-curricular puppet clubs. Performances can be any time in Autumn or Spring terms.

## Project leaders

### You?

We offer **free training** to any teacher, TA or other member of school staff who would like to run YPPT projects at their own school. No previous art/puppetry experience required. We supply all materials and resources (including full lesson plans), check in with you weekly and send an experienced project leader to support you for any tricky sessions. Apart from being lots of fun and **excellent CPD**, this can halve the cost of a project at your school!

### Freelance artists

Alternatively, we can supply a project leader who will run the whole project at your school. Our freelance artists come from a wide range of backgrounds and hold current DBS checks. They are all fully trained and supported by the YPPT. Please note that if you go for this option, you will still need to make a TA or teacher available to stay with the class during each workshop.





## Impact

Your pupils will:

- Learn a huge range of creative, artistic, technical and practical skills
- Achieve more than they (and you) think they can.
- Be incredibly proud of themselves.
- Improve their confidence, resilience, patience and independence.
- Become more motivated and engaged with school.
- Build teamworking and communication skills.
- Learn to respect others' talents.
- Create memories to last a lifetime.



A report from the University of Hertfordshire in 2019 showed that every child benefits from our projects, but that disadvantaged children benefit the most. You can find the report on the [Impact](#) page of our website.

## Costs

We operate a sliding scale of charges, depending on the size of the school, its ability to pay, and on the nature of the project. We also offer subsidies where needed (see next page).

- The **minimum** that we ask a school to pay is £30 per pupil for the whole year (i.e. **£900** for a class of 30). This cost covers all the art supplies needed (we don't raid your art cupboard!) as well as workbooks and scripts for the pupils, and teaching resource packs for the teachers.
- The full cost of a project for 30 pupils is £3,950 if a teacher runs it, or £6,700 if you ask us to supply a freelance project leader. That's less than £1.50 per pupil per hour if a teacher runs it, with all materials included.
- We offer a discount to schools or MATs running two projects or more at once (i.e. involving 60 pupils or more).

We know what school budgets are like these days—if you think your school would need a subsidy, read on!

## Subsidies

We really hate to see young people missing out on projects for budgetary reasons. If you think your pupils would benefit from participating in a YPPT project but you have concerns about the cost, please **get in touch** with us to discuss our subsidies.

Please note: the best option for keeping the costs down is to have us train a member of your staff (for free) to run the projects.

## A note about COVID

We've been working with schools right through the pandemic, with a mixture of online and in-person workshops. This has included everything from filming shows at a safe distance, to making a new set of online resources for children learning at home, to expanding our freelance team to have enough project leaders to "bubble" each one with a single school in the Autumn term of 2020. Our priority is keeping everyone safe, while also making sure our pupils don't lose out on taking part in projects.

We hope by September 2021 that things will be returning more to normal, but we will continue to be flexible and work with all our partner schools to help children recover from the social impact of the pandemic.



## FAQs

### **Do you do Arts Award?**

We are an Arts Award Centre and can offer up to Silver level awards. We would be happy to discuss this with you. Please note that Arts Awards carry an extra cost.

### **We're going for Artsmark, can you help?**

Absolutely! We're an Artsmark Partner and can help you put together the documentation you need. We can also help you integrate the project across your curriculum.

### **Do you do short projects?**

We can sometimes offer a shorter project (e.g. rehearsals/ performance only, with ready-made puppets). Get in touch if you'd like to be involved, but don't think you can manage a full project.

### **Do you have anything for younger children?**

We're in the process of developing resources for younger children. Get in touch if you'd like to be the first to try them out!

### **Can children with SEN participate in a project?**

Absolutely! Our projects work really well with children with a wide range of SEN as well as children who speak English as an additional language.

## Next steps

1. This term: get in touch! We'd love to chat to you about what you want to get out of a project, and how a project might work at your school. We can also discuss costs/subsidies.
2. You discuss the project with your SLT/teaching team.
3. You confirm (before Easter 2021) that you'd like to host a project next year, and let us know how much you'll be able to contribute financially.
4. Summer term 2021: we fundraise if you need a subsidy. We also confirm logistics of the project with you, including you choosing what story/stories you'd like your pupils to work on.
5. Summer 2021: any teachers/TAs running projects in your school attend our short training camp (this may be online this year!)
6. September 2021: Your pupils start their journey through a YPPT project!

