

## Learning English language through drama, music and performance

The Trinity Stars: Young Performers in English Award encourages the teaching and learning of English language through drama, music and performance. It is a group award, designed for children aged anywhere between 3 and 12 years old who are starting to learn English.

Preparing for the award shows how performance-related activity supports learning, motivates children and builds their confidence and communication skills.

### Creating enthusiasm for learning English

Trinity Stars uses drama, music and performance to help young children learn English. It is designed to support teachers in the classroom, helping them to engage and motivate children – resulting in increased confidence and improved memory of the language they are learning.

Each child can show what they know, and every type of learner has the opportunity to contribute to the group.

### The four awards

There are four awards: Stages 1, 2 and 3, and a School Show award.

#### Stage 1, 2 and 3 awards

(groups of 5 to 40 children)

Schools enrol groups of children at Stage 1, 2 or 3 depending on the English language ability of the class. Performances last 5-30 minutes depending on the stage.

#### School Show award

(groups of up to 300 children)

Schools prepare a School Show group and book a Trinity Stars expert to watch the dress rehearsal. Performances last 30-90 minutes.

### How Trinity Stars works

Trinity Stars is an award for a group performance in English. Children learn songs, poems, plays or stories in the English language and prepare to perform them as a group or in a school show.

The process is simple:

1. Teachers prepare children's performances in class with the help of our Guide for Teachers and online resources.
2. Schools book a visit from a Trinity Stars expert who will watch how the children perform and use English.
3. The Trinity Stars expert stamps project work, and gives each participating child a Trinity Stars medal at the end of the performance.
4. The expert conducts a reflective feedback session with the children's teachers to inform and support future teaching.
5. Participating children receive a Trinity Stars certificate with their name and the name of their group printed on it within 6 weeks of the performance.
6. The teachers who prepared the children for the award also receive a certificate for participating in the reflective feedback session.

“I really enjoyed preparing for the award – the performance aspect broke learning barriers.”

Infant school teacher

“Drama activities help build children's communication skills.”

Primary school teacher



**“It was a new, interesting way of learning English.”**  
 Primary school teacher

### How performance activities support learning

Teachers using drama, music and performance to teach language can:

- ▶ use language in **context** to make vocabulary more meaningful and memorable
- ▶ help integrate **content** with language
- ▶ use **multi-sensory** activities that help children remember what they're learning
- ▶ encourage **co-operation, interaction and communication**
- ▶ encourage **adventurous thought** so children are **inspired** to become brave and creative in their language and expression
- ▶ teach in a **holistic** way that includes language, knowledge, thought, emotions, expression, imagination, intuition, memory, action and leadership
- ▶ give children a sense of **contentment, achievement and success** – these positive experiences stimulate language learning.

### Learning progression – next steps

Trinity Stars provides an early platform for progression. Young learners can take part in a Trinity Stars performance before or alongside taking Trinity Graded Examinations in Spoken English (GESE).

**Find out more about Trinity Stars**  
 Visit [www.trinitycollege.co.uk/trinitystars](http://www.trinitycollege.co.uk/trinitystars)  
 Speak to your local Trinity representative – contact details can be found at [www.trinitycollege.co.uk/worldwide](http://www.trinitycollege.co.uk/worldwide)

### Teacher support and online resources

#### Guide for Teachers

The free Trinity Stars **Guide for Teachers** is an essential document that describes the four awards, how they work and how your school can enter and prepare for them.

#### Online resources

Online resources and activities have been created especially for Trinity Stars to support the development of communicative skills in English.

These resources help teachers integrate performance into language learning in the classroom and are designed to support the language and performance goals required at each stage.



[www.trinitycollege.co.uk/support-trinitystars](http://www.trinitycollege.co.uk/support-trinitystars)

### About Trinity

Trinity College London has over 75 years' experience of assessing English language proficiency and more than 130 years' experience in assessing music, drama and performance.

We are unique in the way that we can combine and apply our experience in English language and performance-based assessment.

### Assessing English language proficiency since 1938