

LAMDA Communication and Performance Qualifications



LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC & DRAMATIC ART

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downloaded from www.lamda.org.uk

Welcome

Over the last 130 years, LAMDA has developed an enviable reputation for delivering excellence in the provision of Communication and Performance exams in the UK, and is rapidly extending its reach internationally.

This brochure describes our range of modern graded exams which we hope will inspire teachers, schools and parents to identify suitable pathways to match the interests and talents of all their learners.

All our examinations are rooted in encouraging participants to develop a love of literature, poetry, drama and musical theatre, and hence improve standards of communication through the spoken word. But beyond the particular discipline, all our exams are aimed at developing a learner's self-confidence and a broad range of essential life skills that will support them in the future.

Indeed, our qualifications are for everyone. Both in the UK and across the globe, our examinations unite learners of all ages, abilities, backgrounds and cultures in enthusiasm for the English language and a desire to develop skills for life.

I hope you will find this brochure useful in identifying suitable exams. For further information, please visit our website at www.lamda.org.uk.



Guy Norris
Head of Examinations

Why Choose a LAMDA Examination?

Through our Communication and Performance pathways, LAMDA offers a wide range of exams. No matter which direction a learner may choose to follow in the future, our exams provide the opportunity to nurture natural abilities.

Across the range, our exams develop a learner's ability to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- expand vocabulary to improve powers of self-expression
- improve confidence in speaking and listening
- memorise and recall information
- research and create persuasive formal presentations
- create and defend arguments
- engage in constructive informal conversation
- work both alone and as a member of a team.

These critical skills will enhance the learner's self-confidence to engage and contribute fully, whether at school, in further education, in work, or in the community: in other words, empowering an individual to fulfil their potential.

LAMDA's exams are designed to recognise and reward the endeavours of each individual. Learners are awarded an official LAMDA certificate and a medal, where relevant, as well as constructive

feedback in a written report to help them advance to the next level. Our examiners are experts in their fields who have been trained and standardised by LAMDA to assess learners with objectivity and equality.

Beyond rigorous assessment, success in one of our exams demonstrates that learners have grown as individuals by participating in a worthwhile activity that is respected as a global standard.

LAMDA examinations for Schools

The LAMDA examination syllabuses can be easily incorporated into existing curricula. At upper infant and primary level, our Introductory exams provide an excellent link to literacy requirements for speaking and listening and at primary level, our Communication examinations can be used as evidence of success in English. At secondary and further education level, key elements of both our Communication and Performance qualifications can be incorporated into teaching for GCSEs, AS and A Levels in English, Drama and Theatre Studies or for BTEC qualifications in Performing Arts. Schools and colleges can draw upon funding for learners aged 3 to 19 years through the Education Funding Agency for LAMDA-recognised examinations.

LAMDA examinations for Private Training Providers

Our examinations offer a great way to validate extra-curricular teaching, particularly at drama, dance and performing arts schools. Drama classes can be constructed around the examination requirements and exam sessions can be held at weekends to accommodate those who have weekend classes.

Accreditation and Recognition

LAMDA is recognised as an awarding organisation by Ofqual, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation in England and the corresponding regulatory authorities in Wales and Northern Ireland (CCEA). Other recognitions are held internationally and LAMDA's Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) accredited examinations are also aligned with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

LAMDA examinations Internationally

LAMDA examinations are available to schools, colleges and private training providers across the globe. They are useful for non-native speakers of English, particularly alongside standard ESOL programmes, and are an engaging way to develop English language skills. Examiners for international examinations are all native English speakers.

Taking Our Examinations

To meet the needs of every learner, we offer two routes of entry for our examinations in the UK:

Private Centres

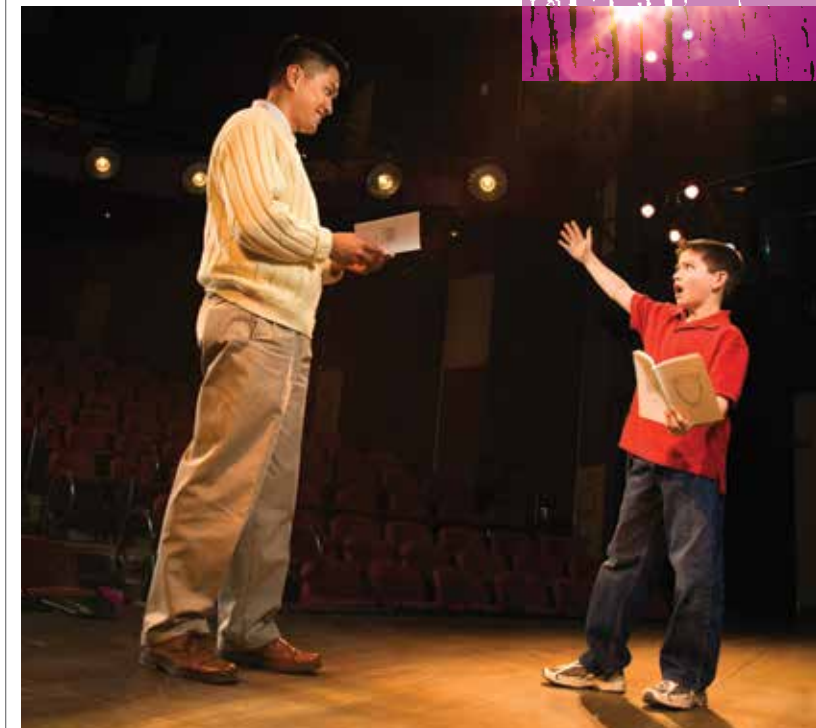
A private centre is a venue that is organised and managed by a teacher or other contact independent of LAMDA. It is administered by a nominated Centre Coordinator, who is responsible for booking the examiner through LAMDA, arranging the venue, entering the learners, arranging the timetable and distributing results when they are issued. There is no fee to be a private centre, but you will need to make sure that, for each examination session you book, the total fee for your learners meets the minimum entry fee requirement.

Public Centres

If you are an individual learner, or a teacher with learners whose fees total less than the minimum entry fee requirement or who does not have an appropriate venue, you can apply to take examinations at one of our UK public centres. A public centre is run by LAMDA and is open to anyone who wishes to take an examination. These run on set dates and in different venues around the UK. Visit our website for more information.

Examinations outside of the UK

How you enter for the LAMDA examinations depends upon your circumstances and on the arrangements available locally. There are also private and public centres in most countries where you can submit learners' entries for examinations. Please contact us for details about minimum entry fees and procedures.



Introductory Examinations

Explore poetry
and conversation
skills in a gentle
introduction to
the LAMDA exams
structure and
creative expression



Introductory Examinations

LAMDA's Solo Introductory examinations are designed to introduce learners to creative expression and to the LAMDA examinations framework.

Learners will develop the ability to share a poem and respond to simple questions with confidence, whilst also enhancing their memory and recall skills.

Solo Introductory examinations are available at three stages:

- Solo Introductory Stage One
- Solo Introductory Stage Two
- Solo Introductory Stage Three

At each stage the learner will memorise and present a set poem to the examiner.

At Stage One, they then have a conversation with the examiner about a favourite toy or object that the learner brings with them into the examination room. At Stage Two, the learner has a conversation with the examiner about a picture, photograph or postcard with which they are familiar and at Stage Three, the learner has a conversation with the examiner about a favourite book.

LAMDA's Group Introductory examinations (for three to ten learners) introduce learners to the LAMDA Group examinations framework whilst focusing on team working skills. These examinations will help learners to develop their personal self-confidence in a supportive environment.

Group Introductory examinations are available at three stages:

- Group Introductory Stage One
- Group Introductory Stage Two
- Group Introductory Stage Three

At each stage the learners will memorise and present a set poem as a group. They then play a drama game with the examiner.

For all solo and group introductory examinations, successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

LAMDA Introductory examinations are not recognised by the Regulatory Authorities in England, Wales or Northern Ireland and do not reside on any qualification framework in England, Wales or Northern Ireland. They do provide a sense of achievement for learners in order to continue their interest in performance and drama.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Introductory examinations please refer to the LAMDA Introductory Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Aroshie Jayasinghe

**Coordinator –
Gateway School
of Speech and Drama
Colombo
Sri Lanka**

The Gateway School of Speech and Drama caters for students from local and international schools with approximately 850 students between the ages of 4 to 13 attending courses at any given time. Their teachers work to instil in their students a sense of self-confidence and develop creativity.

They feel that LAMDA's Introductory examinations are student-friendly qualifications which can be used as stepping-stones for learners who would like to approach Performance or Communication examinations in future. They build up the learners' confidence in speaking from memory and they also develop an appreciation for poetry from a young age.

LAMDA Introductory examinations

are exquisite qualifications which guide learners to become confident communicators and performers. As the learning outcomes and assessment criteria for each band are clearly and comprehensively laid out at each level, they provide learners and teachers with an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the learner and monitor their progress.

Communication Examinations

**Develop a clear
speaking voice,
good body
language and
self-confidence
by exploring
spoken English**



Speaking Verse and Prose

Using poetry and prose, LAMDA Speaking Verse and Prose examinations allow learners to explore literature in an engaging and practical way, and develop solid communication skills.

Developing a good speaking voice is key for these examinations. Learners who are successful, will recognise how to use their voices in different ways to provoke different reactions. Equally important, memorising a number of pieces encourages self-discipline and focus.

The way the learner interprets the pieces will enable them to engage imaginatively with the thought, emotion, style and form of the text. Technically, the learner will develop skills in voice, diction, posture and body language. An in-depth knowledge and appreciation of the literature will also be achieved as they study the text and that will help them communicate each text to the imagined audience in an engaging way.

LAMDA Speaking Verse and Prose examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Bronze Medal Grade 7 Silver Medal Grade 8 Gold Medal

At each grade, the learner will perform a set verse and/or prose selection and an own choice selection from memory. They will also answer questions about their chosen selections and any other theory required for the grade.

At Level 2 sight-reading is introduced, where the learner will read at sight a previously unseen text provided by the examiner at the time of the examination. They will be assessed on their fluency, expression and how well they share the text with the imagined audience. At Level 3 (Grades 7 and 8 only) the learner will also speak a sonnet of their own choice from memory.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on their performance.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Speaking Verse and Prose examinations please refer to the LAMDA Communication Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.

Libby Oliver

Head of LAMDA
Speech Lessons –
Bancroft’s School
Essex
United Kingdom

Bancroft’s School is an independent co-educational day school for 1000 pupils aged seven to 18. Founded by the Drapers’ Company in 1737, Bancroft’s provides academic excellence combined with a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities.

The Speaking Verse and Prose exams are incredibly popular at the school. They currently have 400 pupils ranging in age from seven to 17 years old taking part. Lessons are offered as an extra-curricular activity to small groups in which they incorporate some enjoyable games and group work. They believe the exams help to encourage clear and expressive speech and this gives the students confidence in everything they do.

“The exams help the pupils improve in their English lessons and they often choose to use an English text from their class for their prose so the benefits work both ways. They broaden their knowledge of authors and the exams encourage the pupils to read more. The knowledge they have gained by Grade 8 is considerable. The UCAS points awarded are also an incentive for them to keep going.”



Reading for Performance

LAMDA Reading for Performance examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary for reading aloud to an audience and devising a recital for performance.

Reading aloud is an important skill to develop early on and can be used throughout life, when reading reports in meetings or when delivering presentations from written notes. These examinations help learners to recognise how to engage with an audience when an object, such as a book or folder, breaks the contact. As with all examinations, the development of a clear speaking voice and good body language are an integral part of these exams, helping learners to improve their communication skills.

LAMDA Reading for Performance examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8

When preparing for a Reading for Performance examination, the learner will develop interpretative and technical skills, knowledge of literature and how to devise and present a programme of material for performance.

At each grade, the learner will perform a recital based around a theme, which includes two or more readings (depending on the grade), an introduction, linking statements and a conclusion. The readings must not be memorised but must be read from a book or folder. The introduction, linking statements and conclusion must be performed from memory. The learner will also answer questions in the examination about their chosen material and any other theory required for the grade.

At Level 3 sight-reading is introduced, where the learner will read at sight a previously unseen text provided by the examiner at the time of the examination. They will be assessed on their fluency, expression and how well they share the text with the imagined audience.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Reading for Performance examinations please refer to the LAMDA Communication Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.

Christine Minter

Joint Principal –
Chrystel Arts
Theatre School
Middlesex
United Kingdom

Chrystel Arts Theatre School is an independent theatre school run by Elaine Twining and Christine Minter. The school has been established in its present form since 1987, being a direct descendant of the Doris Clark School of Dancing (established in the 1930s). Elaine and Christine trained as teachers with the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and LAMDA.

They feel that the Reading for Performance exams encourage younger students to read and explore books they might not normally look at and offer a wide range of older students the chance to explore and develop this technique in different ways. The exams also teach the students the important skill of reading to an audience in a way that captures and keeps their attention, which is vital for many professions as well as for actors.

“Our students enjoy these exams as they offer the freedom to create their own recital in a way that is individual and personal to them. The more academic students enjoy researching and exploring their theme, enabling them to conceive intelligent and often thought-provoking recitals, while those who are more expressive explore their themes and pieces through a more creative process and perform recitals that are entertaining and more dramatic.”



Speaking in Public

LAMDA Speaking in Public examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary for effective oral communication and public presentation.

Public speaking is an integral part of 21st Century life. Whether speaking in front of a small group of colleagues or at a large-scale conference, many people in any walk of life are at some point required to make a presentation or to give a speech.

These examinations provide the tools to help learners construct speeches, use positive body language and engage with a wide range of communication techniques. At the higher grades, these examinations also include impromptu work, which helps learners develop the skills necessary to formulate arguments and convincing presentations with little preparation time.

Building on communication skills with conversation and listening skills, these examinations encourage learners to think on their feet and to structure a considered argument under time constraints.

LAMDA Speaking in Public examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Bronze Medal Grade 7 Silver Medal Grade 8 Gold Medal

At Entry Level and Level 1, the learner will deliver one prepared speech and at Level 2 and Level 3, the learner will deliver two prepared speeches. Also at Level 3, the learner will prepare and deliver an impromptu speech from a choice of three topics provided to them 15 minutes before the examination.

At Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2, the examiner and the learner will engage in a brief conversation in the Knowledge section of the examination about a chosen topic. Learners will be assessed on their concentration, their ability to respond appropriately to questions and engage in a two-way conversation.

At all levels, including Level 3, the learner will also answer questions about their speeches and any other theory required.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.



Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Speaking in Public examinations please refer to the LAMDA Communication Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Patricia Williams

Director – Streets Ahead United Kingdom

Streets Ahead is a youth theatre for students from the age of three to 18 (and sometimes even older). Their aim is to introduce students to performing skills, to develop those skills, to inspire their interest in the world of drama, and to care and guide them as they build their confidence and self-esteem and blossom with personal development.

The students love the Speaking in Public exams because they enjoy the discussions about the topics and learning how to put the speeches together and how to deliver them. They gain huge personal development skills in organisation, thinking of social and world issues, speech writing and verbal communication utilising vocal skills.

“These examinations are not just good for the CV, they are very beneficial to the learners in a myriad of ways. They develop great confidence in understanding presentation of ideas and arguments, all of which will stand them in good stead, not just for examinations with LAMDA and within the national curriculum, but also in the workplace and all areas of life.”

Performance Examinations

**Build
communication
and life skills while
also developing
team-working
abilities**



Acting

LAMDA Acting examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to communicate dramatic text to an audience.

They help to develop key life skills, such as understanding and empathy, by allowing learners to engage with different circumstances and/or situations in a practical way. The examinations help to promote creative thinking and exploration, whilst allowing learners to acquire memory skills, spatial awareness, vocal confidence and physical presence.

Exploring different characters also allows learners to get to the heart of how feelings and emotions dictate behaviour, encouraging them to become more self-aware.

As with all LAMDA examinations, the development of a clear speaking voice and good body language are an integral part of these exams.

LAMDA Acting examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Bronze Medal Grade 7 Silver Medal Grade 8 Gold Medal

LAMDA Acting examinations are offered in the following formats:

- Solo (one learner) where the learner performs alone
- Duologue (two learners) where the learners perform all scenes together
- Combined (two learners, available at Level 1 and Level 2 only) where the learners perform one solo scene each and one duologue scene together

At Entry Level, the learner(s) will perform from memory one own choice scene. At Level 1 and Level 2 the learner(s) will perform from memory one set scene and one own choice scene. At Level 3 the learner(s) will perform from memory two scenes of their own choice (at Grade 6) and three scenes of their own choice (at Grade 7 and Grade 8).

At each grade, the learner(s) will answer questions about their chosen scenes and any other theory required.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Acting examinations please refer to the LAMDA Performance Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.

Jo Murphy

Centre Co-ordinator –
for LAMDA, Sylvia Young
Theatre School
London
United Kingdom

The Sylvia Young Theatre School encourages all students to develop their individual talents and to achieve high standards in both the academic and vocational curriculum.

The Acting exams encourage students to focus on a variety of key performance skills and apply themselves to the ‘forensic’ work involved in establishing a believable character in a short time. As they learn their monologues and face various challenges in preparing for the exams, they gain more experience for their future auditions, interviews and other formal situations whether within theatre or in business.



“Our aim as educators is to make sure that everyone achieves individual excellence and experiences a significant learning trajectory throughout the rehearsal process, and I think the students themselves appreciate this. After the discipline of working for these highly exacting exams they are aware of having achieved something special, long before the exam results are published. That mixture of joy, achievement and relief tells the story of a steep learning curve, whatever the outcome.”

Devising Drama

LAMDA Devising Drama examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to devise a dramatic performance and present it to an audience.

These exams are a great opportunity to build on creative thinking skills, as learners are required to take themes or concepts and devise a performance around them. At the higher grades, these examinations also include an improvisation element, which helps learners develop the confidence to perform under pressure. As the learners also devise the text, our Devising Drama examinations provide opportunities to experiment with words and to develop an understanding of the impact of language.

LAMDA Devising Drama examinations are available at four levels in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:	
Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8

LAMDA Devising Drama examinations are offered in the following formats:

- Solo (one learner) where the learner performs alone
- Duologue (two learners) where the learners perform all scenes together

At Entry Level the learner(s) will perform one prepared scene of their own devising. At Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 the learner(s) will perform two prepared scenes of their own devising. At Level 3, the learner(s) will also perform an improvised scene based on a stimulus provided by the examiner at the time of the examination.

At each grade, the learner(s) will answer questions about their devised scenes and any other theory required.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Devising Drama examinations please refer to the LAMDA Performance Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Ruqaya Aamer

School of Speech and Dramatic Arts in association with St Christopher’s School Bahrain

The School of Speech and Dramatic Arts (SSDA) is a pioneering theatre arts programme offering a range of speaking and performance courses to children and adults. They are a registered LAMDA centre and work in association with St Christopher’s School, Bahrain.

They believe that the Devising Drama exams are important for the students’ progression, especially after the Acting exams. By creating a meaningful and engaging piece of theatre on their own, students begin to learn so much about structure, character and plot development, building tension, conflicts, mood, atmosphere and staging. At times they absorb the learning more than when they are analysing a script.

It seems to give them a more holistic understanding of the process of making drama. They are not just the actor, they are all the other elements too! It’s a great way to encourage students to find their own unique style and voice on the stage. Sometimes students who are less confident in their Acting Solo exams are able to use the Devising Drama exams to express themselves through their own words, and in this way, find their confidence. Their imagination is tested and challenged as is their technical ability as writers and actors.

Miming

LAMDA Miming examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to create a performance using mime.

The key skills required for these exams centre on recognising and harnessing non-verbal communication skills, such as facial expression, gesture, body language and movement. These examinations can help learners to be successful in recognising non-verbal communication techniques in others, whilst also assisting them in using these techniques themselves in everyday communication.

When used alongside the LAMDA examinations in Speaking in Public, for example, these exams deliver key skills for careers that involve persuasive communication techniques. Learners develop a creative and expressive set of skills as they progress through the four levels and they gain an in-depth knowledge of mime technique and the performance process.

LAMDA Miming examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8

LAMDA Miming examinations are offered in the following formats:

- Solo (one learner) where the learner performs alone
- Duo (two learners) where the learners perform mimes individually and mime scenes together

At Entry Level the learner(s) will perform one mime scene. At Level 1 and Level 2 the learner(s) will perform one mime and one mime scene. At Level 3 the learner(s) will perform two mime scenes (at Grade 6 and Grade 7) and three mime scenes (at Grade 8).

At each grade, the learner(s) will answer questions about their prepared mimes/ mime scenes and any other theory required.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Miming examinations please refer to the LAMDA Performance Graded Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Vanessa McCarty

**Peripatetic Teacher
at Mount Kelly
Devon
United Kingdom**

Vanessa McCarty is a peripatetic LAMDA teacher whose main teaching role is at Mount Kelly, a small co-educational boarding school in the Dartmoor town of Tavistock. What makes Mount Kelly different from other LAMDA examination centres is that every student at the school, with the exception of those who join the sixth form, takes at least one LAMDA Miming examination.

She uses mime as a foundation for building performance skills before the students can progress on to acting examinations. She feels that the exams are great for creativity and for learning how to focus. The exams are also an essential way to learn about character and build confidence. For many who come to do public speaking, she uses mime as the first step. The learners are very proud of the fact that they are achieving grades in mime.

“A father once confronted me about his son, whom he had sent to me for public speaking but who was now also doing mime. I pointed out that if a teenager can perform being an animal, bird or reptile in front of their peers or an examiner, they would never feel self-conscious about delivering a speech once they get to university or into employment. He continued to send his son to take lessons with me!”

Musical Theatre Examinations

**Enhance
self-confidence
through singing
and acting for
solo or duologue
performances**



Musical Theatre

LAMDA Musical Theatre examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to communicate the dramatic content of musical text over a range of musical theatre styles/categories.

Suitable for both actors and singers, these examinations allow learners to creatively explore the world through performance and song. Key speaking skills such as diction and audibility are fundamental to singing and these examinations offer a fun and engaging way to develop these skills. Learners will also build technical skills in movement, setting and staging, musical pitch, rhythm and phrasing and will explore style, form, character, subtext and context in order to realise the specific demands of the scene and/or song.

These examinations provide learners with the opportunity to develop skills which support the delivery of dramatic text and devised performance. For this reason, these exams complement LAMDA examinations in Acting and Devising Drama. For Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2 the emphasis is on performance and presentation. At Level 3 it also includes the study of musical theatre as a whole.

LAMDA Musical Theatre examinations are available at four levels, in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

Entry Level (Entry 3)	Entry Level
Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3
Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5
Level 3	Grade 6 Bronze Medal Grade 7 Silver Medal Grade 8 Gold Medal

LAMDA Musical Theatre examinations are offered in the following formats:

- Solo (one learner) where the learner performs alone
- Duo (two learners) where the learners perform all scenes/songs together

At Entry Level the learner(s) will perform from memory a song of their own choice. At Level 1 and Level 2 the learner(s) will perform from memory two songs of their own choice. At Level 3 the learner(s) will perform from memory two songs of their own choice (at Grade 6) and three songs of their own choice (at Grade 7 and Grade 8).

At each grade, the learner(s) will answer questions about their songs/scenes and any other theory required.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment.

Find out more



For more information about the LAMDA Musical Theatre examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Examinations in Musical Theatre syllabus which is available on our website.

Caz Dolby

Creative Director and Centre Co-ordinator – Wildcats Theatre School and Post 16 Academy Stamford Lincolnshire United Kingdom

Wildcats Theatre School and Academy comprise a theatre school in Stamford focusing on both part-time and full-time Musical Theatre tuition. Teachers required a Musical Theatre syllabus which would allow students to really understand and appreciate acting through song and chose LAMDA for this purpose.

The content of the syllabus is clear and accessible to all students and shows excellent progression in skills from Entry

to Grade 8. The content fits well with the focus on Musical Theatre and allows teachers to be creative in identifying suitable material for individual children. Wildcats also feel that the reputation LAMDA has throughout the world would give parents confidence in the examinations their children were taking.

Their classes develop acting, singing and dancing and include in-depth technique work. They also have theory built in to encompass the knowledge required for the grades. Younger students are guided into suitable songs for their exams, whilst older students are encouraged to research for themselves the songs which would be suitable. Those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are well catered for, because alongside the Reasonable Adjustments Policy, the syllabus allows for enough scope to be creative when looking at pieces suitable for individuals.

“The LAMDA Musical Theatre exams are an excellent way to measure our students’ success. We highly recommend them.”



Group Examinations

Use drama
to develop
self-confidence,
physical presence
and the ability to
communicate
whilst building
team-working skills



Group Acting

For three or more learners, LAMDA Group examinations build the same communication and life skills as other examination formats, but also help to develop team working skills.

Available in a range of Communication and Performance subjects, these examinations offer a great alternative to solo or duologue examinations. By sharing responsibility for the final performance, these examinations allow learners to build skills in creativity and group work, as well as in project management skills that are vital to success in later life.

Successful learners will receive a LAMDA certificate of their achievement and each group will receive an examination report from the examiner providing feedback on the assessment. LAMDA Group examinations are not recognised by the Regulatory Authorities in England, Wales or Northern Ireland and do not reside on any qualification framework in England, Wales or Northern Ireland, but they do provide a sense of achievement for learners in order to continue their interest in performance and drama.

Group Acting

LAMDA Group Acting examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to communicate a dramatic text in a group, to an audience. Learners will build technical skills in voice, diction and movement and explore style, character, subtext and context in order to realise the specific demands of the text.

LAMDA Group Acting examinations are available at nine grades:

Entry Grade

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8



Find out more



For more information about the LAMDA Group Acting examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Group Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.

Lucy Morgans

Principal – All the Arts Theatre School
London
United Kingdom

All The Arts Theatre School was founded in 2003 to provide professional, affordable training for children aged three years and upwards in all aspects of the performing arts.

As one of the most successful and busiest theatre schools in Greater London, they were looking for a good way to introduce a large number of pupils to LAMDA examinations and chose Group Acting examinations as a way to raise the standards of their students.

They manage to fit the preparation into the weekly timetables which allows all the students the opportunity to take the exams whilst they prepare for their normal school examinations.

Lucy believes that the Group exams play a large part in improving teamwork and the students enjoy working through the grades, which gives them a sense of achievement and development through performance.



Group acting exams have allowed us to challenge our pupils, whilst keeping all students engaged in busy classes. The exams have enabled our older pupils to continue working through the LAMDA syllabus alongside their school commitments. Working towards a short performance of a play or film text has given our learners a real sense of achievement and we have noticed their confidence in acting improve greatly.

Group Devising Drama



LAMDA Group Devising Drama examinations are designed to devise a dramatic performance with a defined shape and structure in a group and present it to an audience.

Learners will build technical skills in voice, diction and movement and will engage with character and situation in order to create a sense of reality.

LAMDA Group Devising Drama examinations are available at nine grades:

Entry Grade

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

Find out more



For more information about LAMDA Group Devising Drama examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Group Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Kerry Woods-Shelley

Drama Teacher and Speech and Drama Tutor –
Palmers Green High School
London
United Kingdom

Palmers Green High School (PGHS) is an independent selective day school for girls aged three to 16 covering Pre-Preps, Preps, Juniors and Seniors. The school has a high interest in performing as an extra-curricular activity as it has an emphasis on an academic and selective education for the girls.

The LAMDA Group Devising Drama examinations encourage large groups of different ages to perform and they are able to take the exams alongside their normal curriculum and school examinations.

“The girls thoroughly enjoy the examinations and find them exhilarating, scary, challenging, rewarding and enjoyable. They often say it helps them prepare for other examinations.”

Group Recital



LAMDA Group Recital examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary for creating and performing a programme of material for performance in a recital.

Learners will engage imaginatively with the thought, emotion, style and form of the text and will build technical skills in voice, diction, movement and audience communication.

LAMDA Group Recital examinations are available at four grades:

Entry Grade

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Find out more



For more information about LAMDA Group Recital examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Group Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.

Mahrukh N. Bharucha

Proprietor & Creative Director –
Expressions Unlimited!
Pune
India

Expressions Unlimited! takes every student on a journey of self-discovery through a series of games, poetry, dramatics, reading, role-play, speech exercises and self-esteem building activities, to gently but surely wear away self-doubt and insecurity and replace these with realistic self-assurance. Every student is encouraged to explore the magic, mystery, power and purity of the spoken word, the miracle of voice and the potential of speech.

They believe the LAMDA Group Recital exams allow learners to experience the joys of performance in the safety of a group. They allow students to take their courses from every age and at every level and by taking part in the group exam, they soon develop skills in team-working and self-confidence.

Because groups are smaller, less confident learners have a chance to develop. Teachers also feel more comfortable leading groups of students into Group Recital exams before taking an individual exam because it allows concepts of speech and voice modulation, movement and staging to be covered in a fun and stress-free environment. The children love the exams and are enthusiastic to do more.



“ LAMDA's Group Recital exams seem the ideal vehicle for developing collaborative learning. I strongly recommend these exams to schools, private teachers and drama practitioners. Group Recital brings to life, in a simple and clear way, all those notes, definitions and theories we hear and read about but struggle to illustrate. **”**

Group Choral-Speaking



LAMDA Choral-Speaking examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary for effective oral communication of the written word in a group.

Learners will create a choral performance, engaging imaginatively with the thought, emotion, style and form of the text, and will build technical skills in choral-speaking.

LAMDA Choral-Speaking examinations are available at four grades:

Entry Grade

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Find out more



For more information about LAMDA Choral-Speaking examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Group Examinations syllabus which is available on our website.



Katherine Henry

**Principal –
Freedom Academy
of Performing Arts
London
United Kingdom**

Freedom Academy is a local independent theatre school based in southeast London, created to provide quality performing arts training in acting, singing and dance.

They believe every child deserves the right to shine and there are many benefits for students undertaking LAMDA Choral-Speaking exams. The exams promote teamwork and encourage a sense of unity within a group.

They offer the exams to independently run classes alongside their work in partnership with local primary and secondary schools. They find the exams are extremely accessible to all children and it also ties in with work they might already be doing in school. There is a level of familiarity for the students and it also opens up a whole new world of writing and verse and prose. The children develop their vocabulary, speech and confidence in public speaking and they begin to understand the structure and rhythm of various pieces and how they can apply this in their own written work.

“Our students thoroughly enjoy working towards LAMDA examinations and the sense of achievement when completing a grade is huge and fantastic to see. Many parents have also commented on their child’s progress at school, particularly in English subjects, since taking Choral-Speaking examinations. Both children and parents seem to be thrilled with what it offers, as we are!”

The children thoroughly enjoy bringing the words and stories to life, an experience which supports them in other subjects such as Acting and Musical Theatre.

Group Musical Theatre



LAMDA Group Musical Theatre examinations are designed to develop the skills necessary to communicate the dramatic content of musical text in a group.

The emphasis is on performance and presentation rather than on the study of musical theatre as a whole. Learners will explore style, form, character, subtext and context in order to realise the specific demands of the musical scene and will build technical skills in voice, diction, movement, pitch, rhythm and phrasing.

LAMDA Group Musical Theatre examinations are available at nine grades:

Entry Grade

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

Find out more



For more information about LAMDA Group Musical Theatre examinations please refer to the LAMDA Graded Examinations in Musical Theatre syllabus which is available on our website.

Jane Maudsley

**Managing Director –
Little Voices Limited
Various locations
throughout the
United Kingdom**

At Little Voices parents will find outstanding tuition, expert guidance, support and traditional methods of teaching drama and singing, so that their children can pursue a life on the stage or increase their confidence in all areas of their life. They pride themselves on traditional and inspirational, yet fun-filled lessons.

The Group Musical Theatre syllabus was introduced in 2007 and the benefits for children to be able to merge the two disciplines of Acting and Singing in a realistic setting of working as part of a team/cast were fantastic. Parents are very supportive of the exam process and the children really enjoy preparing for the exams. The end result is a certificate and the confidence to go on with their love of musical theatre.



“The Group Musical Theatre Examinations are so flexible in terms of content and how you can devise pieces to fit the needs of the pupils. The group dynamic is outstanding on so many levels as it enables children to work as part of a team and to enjoy a realistic setting for their Musical Theatre examination pieces. Confident children can take lead roles and less confident children can still achieve success by taking a smaller role but executing it brilliantly within the scene. We all have to work in teams in life – this is a perfect foundation.”

Further Examinations

A range of qualifications designed to develop advanced performance or teaching skills



The LAMDA Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM)

The LAMDA Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is designed to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required for the performance of verse, prose and drama.

Learners will engage imaginatively with character, subtext and context, as well as with the thought, emotion, style and form of verse, prose and dramatic text. They will build technical skills in voice, diction and movement and will know and understand the background and major movements within a chosen literary period, how to research in preparation for a performance and how to prepare physically, vocally and mentally for a performance.

The qualification comprises three units, all of which are mandatory in order to achieve the whole qualification:

Unit 1:
Performance Theory and Practice

Unit 2:
Presenting a Performance Recital

Unit 3:
Knowledge of Performance Repertoire

A pass is required in each unit in order to qualify for the full certificate. The PCertLAM is set at Level 3 in the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and is available to all learners aged 16 years and over.

Find out more

For more information about the LAMDA Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies please refer to the PCertLAM syllabus specification which is available on our website.



Karen Pickles

Director of Drama Centre
– Clifton College
Bristol
United Kingdom



Clifton College in Bristol is one of the leading co-educational public boarding and day schools in the country. Its 150-year heritage has included a consistently strong focus on literature and the performing arts.

The school chose the PCertLAM qualification because their pupils reach Grade 8 in their GCSE/AS year and want to study a higher qualification which gives them something substantial to demonstrate to universities that they have studied literature to a deeper and higher level. It supports their Oxbridge pupils in their applications particularly well as it gives them confidence in their technique and discussion for their interviews.

Those who take it are very earnest in their desire to achieve the very best result and take the examination very seriously. They believe it is educational and creative which adds depth and challenge to their learning.

We believe that the PCertLAM examination challenges and gives confidence in all areas of our pupils' academic and co-curricular interests. They really enjoy the study and we use a variety of staff with particular interests to assist in developing their literary and historical interest to a deeper level, whether it be the Psychology teacher in discussing Freud and Modernism or the History of Art teacher discussing architecture and the influences on literature and political movement. This is both an academic and performance based qualification and is an excellent way of discovering more of our literary, political and historical past.

The LAMDA Diploma in Communication, Speech and Drama Education (LSDE)

The LAMDA Diploma in Communication, Speech and Drama Education (LSDE) has been designed to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required to teach communication skills, speech and drama and provide opportunities for learners to gain a strong foundation in delivering communication, speech and drama education.

The LSDE enables learners to develop essential skills and knowledge in areas of study which reflect the role of the speech and/or drama teacher. The qualification combines research, analysis and reflection, leading to the practical application of this knowledge.

Upon successful completion of the LSDE, learners can go on to:

- train small groups or individuals in communication skills
- teach speech and drama for graded examinations or competitive events
- teach improvisation, text, voice and movement
- prepare students for diplomas in communication and drama and/or the performing arts; and
- direct amateur theatre or youth theatre companies and community drama projects.

The qualification comprises three units, all of which are mandatory in order to achieve the whole qualification:

Unit 1:

Theoretical and Subject Knowledge in Communication, Speech and Drama

Unit 2:

The Application of Professional Knowledge in Communication, Speech and Drama

Unit 3:

Demonstrating Practical Teaching Skills relating to Communication, Speech and Drama

A pass is required in each unit in order to qualify for the full certificate. The LSDE is set at Level 5 in the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and is available to all learners aged 19 years and over.

Find out more



For more information about the LAMDA Diploma in Communication, Speech and Drama Education please refer to the LSDE syllabus specification which is available on our website.



Mia Ball

LAMDA Examiner

The LSDE is the LAMDA teaching qualification and an increasing number of students are enrolling to study for it. Many come from performance backgrounds, have started doing some teaching and want a qualification to improve their work and increase their chances of employment in the future.

The main benefit gained from working for the exam is that it gives each candidate, whatever their background, a basic knowledge of the subject together with the skills needed to help pupils.



“Students approach the work enthusiastically, they like the flexibility and the ability to work at their own pace. In addition to helping students within the group, I have supported two students through the LSDE who are based abroad, and who have worked solely online. I was very pleased when my Dubai-based student passed the diploma with a high distinction.”

Contact Us

Go to www.lamda.org.uk to find a teacher, view the syllabuses, download a centre registration form or to find out where your nearest centre is.

Email exams@lamda.org.uk to request a visit from a LAMDA examinations representative

Call **+44 (0)844 847 0520** for advice on introducing LAMDA examinations.

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Publications and Merchandise

The LAMDA syllabuses may be downloaded from our website at www.lamda.org.uk and hard copies may be purchased from our online Store.

We also have a selection of useful publications including anthologies and merchandise which may be purchased at any time.

For more information, visit www.lamda.org.uk.



