



ST FRANCIS SCHOOL

LAMDA

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) is one of the oldest drama schools in the United Kingdom. LAMDA began offering speech examinations in the 1880's. Since then, these examinations have been refined and developed into a comprehensive system of performance evaluation by experts in education, acting and communication.

Information sheet for parents of pupils in Year 1 to Year 6

At St Francis School we offer peripatetic Speech and Drama lessons (referred to as LAMDA) to pupils from Year 1 to Year 6. In Year 1, 2 and 3 pupils will have 25 minute lessons every week, and in years 4, 5, and 6 pupils will generally have one double lesson (50 minutes) on a fortnightly basis, occasionally a single lesson will be given. Single lessons cost £15 (for pairs) per 25 minute lesson, or £30 (for individual) per 25 minute lesson, and will be invoiced termly, retrospectively. Pupils will have approximately 30 lessons a year (or 15 double lessons where applicable). We aim to enter each pupil into one Acting examination each year which is normally taken in the Summer Term. Examination fees can be found on LAMDA's website: <https://www.lamda.org.uk/examinations>

Lessons are taught during the school day and, where possible, are provided on a rotating timetable. We ask that you allow some flexibility with timetabling as many pupils have other out of lesson commitments (Music, Learning Support etc.).

Please note that in line with school policy, a full term's notice (or a full term's fees in lieu of notice) must be provided if a pupil wishes to discontinue lessons or if they are leaving the school. For new pupils, the notice period is waived to a half term for the first term.

Lessons for pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 will be one to one, however from Year 3 to Year 6 most LAMDA teaching happens with pairs of students. Partnerships are selected carefully in order to create confident working relationships where children are able to complement each other's strengths. From time to time, we understand that children may fall out with one another or feel less enthusiastic about sharing a lesson together. In order to maintain good working relationships, it is important that good communication is always a priority between parents, LAMDA teachers, Form Teachers/Tutors and children. Learning to work productively together is one of the core social skills that LAMDA tuition is able to nurture.

We feel it is important that pupils are given the opportunity to perform their LAMDA pieces to an audience. In light of this, we arrange LAMDA showcases throughout the year where friends and family are welcome to attend and watch the children perform. We also enter into Festivals and next year it is likely that children in Year 4, 5 and Year 6 will have the opportunity to enter the Mid Somerset Festival, Devizes Eisteddfod or Royal Wootton Bassett Arts Festival. Further details on these festival can be found at: <https://www.midsomersetfestival.org.uk>, <https://www.devizes-eisteddfod.org.uk/> or <https://rwbartfestival.com>

Contact: Please contact Abigail (Abby) Bracken at brackena@stfpewsey.co.uk or call the School Office should you wish to discuss any matters relating to LAMDA.