

Phantom Arts School Ltd

i-Path Information on Graded Exams and Awards

At Phantom Arts, we believe that every student deserves the opportunity to feel proud of their progress.

Performing arts is about so much more than learning routines, remembering lines or perfecting technique. It is about building confidence, discovering creativity, developing resilience and learning to express yourself.

Our **i-Path Examinations & Awards** provide students with a range of opportunities to work towards goals that are appropriate for their age, ability, experience and confidence.

Whether your child is ready to take a graded examination, would benefit from a more supported assessment, or simply deserves recognition for their enthusiasm and commitment, there is an i-Path pathway for them.

There is no one-size-fits-all approach. Every student's journey is different — and every achievement is worth celebrating.

What is i-Path?

i-Path provides a structured pathway for students to develop their performing arts skills and have their achievements recognised.

Students can work towards graded examinations in:



Acting / Singing



Musical Theatre



Dance (various styles)



Acro

We also offer alternative award pathways for students who may not be ready for a traditional graded examination, including:

- Guided Examinations
- Participation Awards
- Sparkle Awards for our youngest students i.e. Phantom Pups

Our aim is to make achievement **accessible, positive and enjoyable for every student.**

Why Take an Examination?

Working towards an examination can be a fantastic experience for students.

It can help develop:

Confidence

Performing in front of an examiner can help students become more comfortable presenting themselves and their skills.

Discipline & Commitment

Preparing for an examination encourages students to work towards a goal and understand the value of regular practice.

Technique

Graded work gives students the opportunity to develop their skills progressively and build a strong foundation for future training.

Performance Skills

Students learn how to communicate, perform and respond to an audience or examiner.

Personal Achievement

Completing an examination gives students something tangible to celebrate and be proud of.

Most importantly, **an examination should be a positive experience.** We will never encourage a student to enter simply because they are "expected" to.

At our school, we will be offering examinations in:

Acting

For students who love storytelling, character and performance.

Acting training can help students develop:

Characterisation

Vocal expression

Communication

Script work

Physical performance

Facial expression

Creativity

Confidence

Performance skills

Singing

For students who love to sing and want to develop their voice and musical skills.

I-PATH offers graded Singing examinations, providing students with a structured pathway from the early stages of vocal development through to more advanced levels.

Students can develop areas including:

Vocal technique

Breath control

Pitch and intonation

Musicality

Rhythm

Aural skills

Interpretation

Expression

Performance confidence

Developing their individual voice

The I-PATH Singing pathway also gives students the opportunity to explore different musical styles, helping them discover and develop their own individual performance style.

Whether a student dreams of becoming a professional singer or simply wants to become more confident using their voice, singing examinations can provide a fantastic structure for continued development.

Musical Theatre

For students who love to combine **acting, singing and dance**.

Musical Theatre gives performers the opportunity to develop their ability to bring a character and story to life through multiple performance disciplines.

Students can develop:

Singing

Acting

Dance

Musicality

Characterisation

Expression

Stage presence

Performance confidence

Dance

Dance examinations give students the opportunity to develop their technique and performance skills progressively.

Depending on the syllabus and level, students may develop areas such as:

Technique

Musicality

Coordination

Flexibility

Strength

Performance quality

Choreography

Spatial awareness

Musical interpretation

Acro

Acro provides students with opportunities to develop physical strength, flexibility, control, balance and acrobatic skills.

Students can work progressively on skills including:

Strength

Flexibility

Balance

Coordination

Body control

Acrobatic skills

Transitions

Presentation

Safety always comes first. Students will only be encouraged to work on skills that are appropriate for their individual development and ability.

Do students have to take an examination?

Short answer? No.

I-PATH examinations and awards are opportunities — they are not compulsory.

We want examinations and awards to be something students feel **excited and proud** to work towards.

Our teachers will consider each student's individual progress and readiness before recommending a particular pathway.

We will never enter a student simply because another student in their class is taking an examination.

How do we decide which level is right?

Every student develops at a different pace. A student's starting point will depend on factors such as:

Age, previous experience, current ability, technical development, confidence, performance experience, individual circumstances and readiness for assessment

Students do **not necessarily need to start at the first level.**

Our teachers will recommend the most appropriate starting point based on the student's individual development. And there is no expectation that every student will move through

levels at the same speed.

GUIDED GRADED AWARDS

A more supportive pathway to achievement

We understand that a traditional examination environment may not be suitable for every student.

Some students may have:

SEN or additional needs

Anxiety

Low confidence

Difficulties with performance pressure

A fear of unfamiliar environments

Other individual circumstances that may affect their assessment experience

For these students, a **Guided Graded Award** may provide a more appropriate pathway.

The aim is to give students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and celebrate their progress in a way that is **supportive, accessible and appropriate to them**.

Guided does not mean "less important".

For some students, completing a Guided Graded Award may represent an enormous personal achievement.

It may be the first time they have: Performed independently, worked towards a formal goal, performed for an examiner, overcome anxiety, stepped outside their comfort zone or received recognition for their skills

We are incredibly proud of those achievements.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Not every student wants to take a graded examination — and that's completely okay.

Achievement Awards provide another way for students to have their commitment, development and participation recognised.

They can be particularly valuable for students who are:

New to performing arts

Building confidence

Developing their skills

Not yet ready for a graded examination

Working towards an individual goal

Looking for recognition without the pressure of a traditional exam

An Achievement Award can celebrate the student's **journey**, not simply their technical ability.

GRADED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

For students who would like to work progressively towards an achievement goal, I-PATH also offers **Graded Achievement Awards**.

These provide another pathway for recognising development and achievement alongside the regulated examination route.

This can be particularly useful for students who enjoy having something to work towards but may benefit from a more flexible award structure.

Our teachers will discuss the most suitable option with students and parents.

PHANTOM PUPS SPARKLE AWARDS

Because our littlest performers deserve to sparkle!

Our **Phantom Pups** are at the beginning of their performing arts journey.

For our youngest students, we want achievement to feel **exciting, magical and fun**.

I-PATH offers **Sparkle Pre-School Awards**, providing an age-appropriate way to celebrate the development of our youngest performers.

Rather than focusing on the pressure of a formal graded examination, our Phantom Pups can be celebrated for all the wonderful little things they achieve along the way.

A Sparkle Award might recognise:

- ✨ Joining in
- ✨ Listening
- ✨ Trying something new
- ✨ Confidence
- ✨ Creativity

- ✨ Imagination
- ✨ Teamwork
- ✨ Kindness
- ✨ Perseverance
- ✨ Performing
- ✨ Musicality
- ✨ Learning new skills
- ✨ And, of course... **SPARKLE!**

For some children, simply walking into class, joining in and having a go can be a huge achievement. And we want to celebrate that.

WHICH PATHWAY IS RIGHT FOR MY CHILD?

There is no "best" award.

There is only the **best** pathway for each individual student.

If your child...	We may recommend...
Is ready for a formal graded qualification	Regulated Graded Examination
Would benefit from additional support during assessment	Guided Graded Award
Wants recognition for their development but doesn't feel ready for an exam	Achievement Award
Would enjoy working towards a structured achievement goal	Graded Achievement Award
Is one of our youngest Phantom Pups	Sparkle Pre-School Award

Our teachers will always consider the individual student when making recommendations.

EXAMS ARE ABOUT MORE THAN RESULTS

We know that the word "exam" can sometimes make students feel nervous.

An examination should be an opportunity to say:

"Look how much I've learned!"

It isn't about being perfect. It isn't about being better than another student. It isn't about comparing one child with another.

It is about recognising a student's **individual progress and achievement**.



HOW WILL STUDENTS PREPARE?

Students will prepare within their regular classes, with additional rehearsal or preparation where appropriate.

Teachers will support students with:

Learning examination material

Understanding the requirements of their level

Developing technique

Building performance confidence

Practising presentation

Receiving constructive feedback

Working on individual areas for improvement

We will communicate important information about examination preparation, dates and requirements with parents in advance.



HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

The best thing parents can do is **encourage rather than pressure**.

You can help by:



Celebrating effort

Ask your child what they enjoyed and what they are proud of.



Encouraging practice

Help them find opportunities to practise at home where appropriate.



Keeping things positive

Remind them that they don't need to be perfect.

Talking about nerves

Feeling nervous before performing is completely normal.

Celebrating progress

Remind your child how far they have already come.

EXAMINATION / AWARD FEES

The current I-PATH examination and award fees are shown below.

I-PATH EXAMINATION FEES

Graded Exam Fee's

Graded Exams are formal assessments where students perform independently without any prompting or support. They follow a traditional exam format and result in an official grade, such as Pass, Merit or Distinction. Graded Exams are best suited to confident students who are fully prepared and able to demonstrate their skills under exam conditions.

Graded Examinations	
Premiere	£22.00
Debut	£26.00
Grade 1	£30.00
Grade 2	£34.00
Grade 3	£38.00
Grade 4	£42.00
Grade 5	£46.00
Grade 6	£50.00
Grade 7	£54.00
Grade 8	£58.00
Intermediate	£64.00
Advanced Foundation	£70.00
Advanced 1	£76.00
Advanced 2	£80.00

Guided Graded Exam Fee's

Guided Graded Exams follow the same syllabus and grading structure as Graded Exams but are teacher led and unregulated. The teacher guides the student through each grade requirement and may demonstrate, support and prompt throughout the assessment. A final grade is awarded by an examiner, making this option ideal for students who benefit from active guidance, reassurance and a reduced-pressure exam environment

Guided Graded Examinations	
Premiere	£22.00
Debut	£26.00
Grade 1	£30.00
Grade 2	£34.00
Grade 3	£38.00
Grade 4	£42.00
Grade 5	£46.00
Grade 6	£50.00
Grade 7	£54.00
Grade 8	£58.00
Intermediate	£64.00
Advanced Foundation	£70.00
Advanced 1	£76.00
Advanced 2	£80.00

I-PATH AWARD FEES

Achievement Award Fee's

Achievement Awards are supportive assessments designed to recognise progress, participation and developing skills. They do not follow a set syllabus. Students may receive guidance and encouragement throughout, making Achievement Awards particularly suitable for beginners, younger learners, or students who benefit from a more nurturing assessment environment.

Achievement Awards	
Bronze Rosette	£14.00
Silver Rosette	£16.00
Gold Rosette	£18.00
Bronze Medal	£20.00
Silver Medal	£22.00
Gold Medal	£24.00
Bronze Star	£26.00
Silver Star	£28.00
Gold Star	£30.00
Foundation Shield	£32.00
Intermediate Shield	£34.00
Advanced Shield	£36.00
Foundation Cup	£38.00
Intermediate Cup	£40.00
Advanced Cup	£42.00
Prestige Award	£44.00
Legacy Award	£46.00
Founders Award	£48.00

Graded Achievement Award Fee's

Graded Achievement Awards bridge the gap between Achievement Awards and formal Graded Exams. Students are supported during the assessment whilst performing selected exercises from one of the I-PATH grades (see Programme of Studies for details). This option is ideal for learners who are progressing well, but not yet comfortable with the full demands of an exam setting.

Graded Achievement Awards	
Foundation Shield FOR PREMIERE, DEBUT AND GRADE 1	£32.00
Intermediate Shield FOR GRADES 2 AND 3	£34.00
Advanced Shield FOR GRADES 4 AND 5	£36.00
Foundation Cup FOR GRADE 6	£38.00
Intermediate Cup FOR GRADE 7	£40.00
Advanced Cup FOR GRADE 8	£42.00

Sparkle Award Fee's

Sparkle Awards are informal, supportive assessments that celebrate participation and positive learning behaviours such as confidence and engagement. They are teacher led and assessed by one of our examiners, but are not exams and do not involve grading. Sparkle Awards are ideal for very young learners or those at an early stage of their learning journey, where enjoyment and confidence are the priority.

Sparkle Awards	
Sparkle Award <i>Includes a Certificate, Report Form and Sparkle Medal</i>	£23.00

When examination and award opportunities become available, parents will receive information from the school explaining:

- Which students have been recommended
- The examination or award pathway
- The level being considered
- Any relevant preparation arrangements
- Important dates
- Fees
- How to confirm participation
- Any other information parents need to know

OUR PROMISE TO OUR STUDENTS

At Phantom Arts, we promise to:

Encourage

We will encourage students to challenge themselves while recognising their individual limits.

Support

We will support students throughout their preparation and assessment journey.

Celebrate

We will celebrate effort, progress and achievement — not just results.

Include

We will strive to ensure every student has an opportunity to participate in a way that is appropriate for them.

Inspire

We want students to leave every experience feeling inspired to keep learning.

Have Fun

Above all, we want our students to continue loving performing arts.

Contact Details:

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