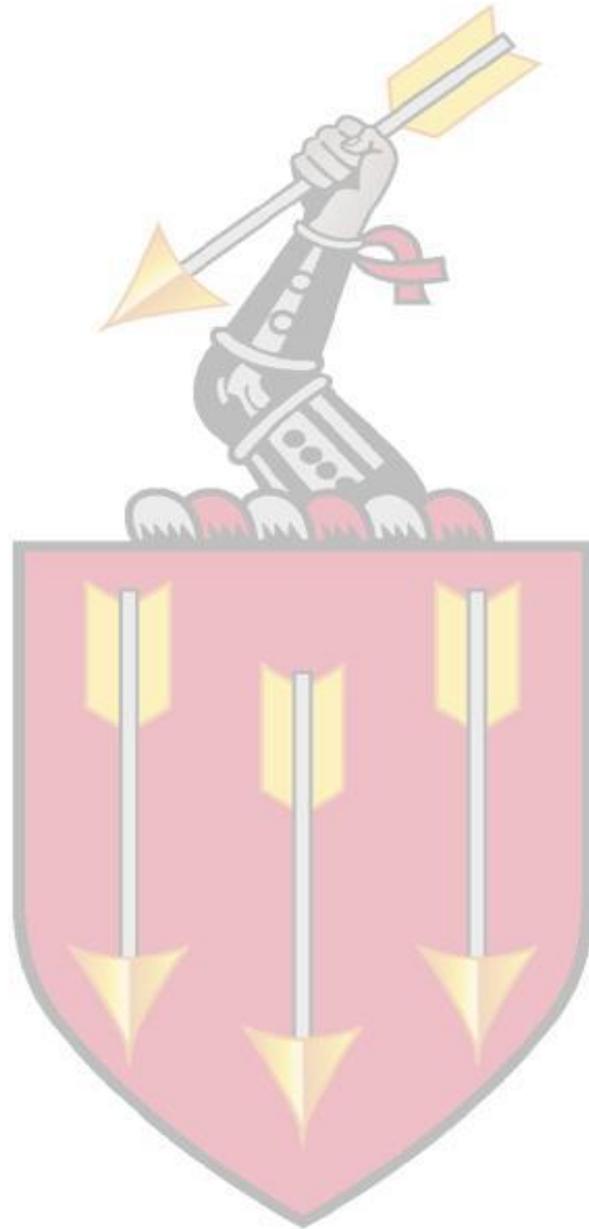


KING HENRY VIII PREPARATORY SCHOOL



**A GUIDE TO LAMDA
LESSONS AND EXAMINATIONS**

LAMDA LESSONS AT KING HENRY VIII PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

What is LAMDA?

Founded in 1861, The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art is the oldest drama school in the UK. They have developed an enviable reputation for delivering excellence in the provision of Communication and Performance examinations in the UK and are rapidly extending their reach internationally. LAMDA Alumni include Benedict Cumberbatch, Hermione Norris, David Suchet, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Katherine Parkinson, Paterson Joseph, and Jim Broadbent, to name but a few.

What can LAMDA classes offer pupils at King Henry VIII Preparatory School?

The process of following the LAMDA framework (whether students decide to take examinations or not) essentially helps learners, whatever their ages or aspirations, to develop a broad range of skills that will serve them throughout life. The LAMDA syllabus develops a learner's ability to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- improve clarity of speech
- expand vocabulary to improve powers of self-expression
- improve confidence in speaking and listening
- memorise and recall information
- engage in constructive informal conversation
- work both on his/her own and participate as a member of a team.
- develop an understanding of how the voice works and how we use it
- understand the link between posture and speech
- understand dramatic expression
- explore and develop Acting skills
- explore performance skills in drama

No matter what direction learners may choose to follow in the future, following the LAMDA framework provides the opportunity to nurture natural abilities. These critical skills will enhance self-confidence to engage and contribute fully, whether at school, in further education, in work, or in the community: in other words, to fulfil an individual's potential. Participants are encouraged to develop a love of literature, poetry and drama and thus improve standards of communication through the spoken word. This syllabus provides a wide range of opportunities to do so.

LAMDA runs as a yearlong course and pupils from Year 1 upwards have the opportunity to attend LAMDA and work towards LAMDA (*London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts*) examinations. Pupils in Reception may be offered a place subject to availability. These are paid lessons and cover a variety of coursework throughout the year ending with the option of an external examination or internal assessment at the end of the academic year. For the purposes of the examination, all pupils study Verse and Prose up until Year 3. Years 4 onwards may have the choice of studying Verse and Prose or Solo Acting depending on the individual's ability and experience. LAMDA is taught on a group basis and the number of pupils in each group is limited (*application form at the end of this booklet*). Please note that whilst LAMDA greatly improves the clarity of speech it is not a substitute for speech therapy.

Verse and Prose

Pupils discover a wide range of poetry and prose and learn how to interpret their meanings. They will be taught story-telling skills, and the ability to perform pieces using both facial and vocal expression. Emphasis is placed on correct diction as well as the confidence to speak in front of a group and develop assured conversation skills. This includes breathing, posture and expanding their vocal range.

Acting

Including the technical skills above, pupils experience a variety of skills including staging techniques, mime, role-play and improvisation. Their understanding, interpretation and subsequent representation of characters enriches their appreciation and perception of both literature and theatre.

When will the lessons take place?

DAY	SWALLOWS SITE	HALES SITE
Monday 12.15 – 12.45	Year 2	
Monday 12.50 – 13.15	Year 1	
Monday 16.00 – 17.00		Years 3 – 6* [^]
Tuesday 12.10 – 13.10		Years 3 - 6 *
Tuesday 16.00 – 17.00	-	Years 3 – 6* [^]

**Pupils will be allocated to the Hales sessions in liaison with the LAMDA teachers. It will not always be possible for pupils to be allocated to their first choice, so please bear this in mind when signing up for other clubs and activities. The number of pupils in each group is limited to 6 at the present time.*

[^]It is important to note that the after-school sessions for Years 3-6 often clash with Sports Fixtures. If parents make the decision that they wish their child to be enrolled in this session, then sports fixtures must always take priority over LAMDA lessons. Any sessions missed as a result of sports fixtures cannot be refunded or made up at another time.

How much do lessons cost?

A course of 10, hour long lessons will cost of £125. The number of lessons will vary depending on the term length and parents are asked to pay termly, in advance of lessons commencing. Contracts are with the LAMDA teachers themselves: payment goes directly to them, as does the required notice to terminate lessons. This helps to ensure good communication between parents and LAMDA teachers.

Practice

The value of parental support and encouragement at home should never be underestimated, particularly when the initial novelty of learning a piece has worn off. Pupils who are receiving tuition may find during the first term and a half that some research is required but once exam pieces have been chosen, they should practise with parents every day, rather than long, irregular sessions. This will also aid them in learning their piece. The golden rule is 'little, but often'!

Examinations

LAMDA Examinations are recognised by Ofqual, the regulator in England and its counterparts in Wales and Northern Ireland. The advent of Ofqual's new Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) now allows for direct comparison between academic qualifications (i.e. GCSEs/A Levels) and vocational qualifications (i.e. LAMDA qualifications and others). In addition, LAMDA accredited examinations at level 3 and above are recognised by the University and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) points system.

LAMDA examinations normally take place towards the middle of the Summer Term and pupils who have been entered for LAMDA Examinations are given full support in preparation, however, it is anticipated that parents will do the same at home. Pupils will need to complete the course in order to take an exam however it is not compulsory for pupils to take the exam. It may be that it is not appropriate or they do not wish to do so; there are a great many benefits to LAMDA without the need for an exam. Pupils will not be entered for an examination if they are unable to demonstrate continuous progress.

(Information regarding examination fees will be supplied as and when appropriate. They are subject to change as they are set by LAMDA)

COVID-19

In order to minimise paperwork that is sent into school, Parents are requested to send any enquiries and registration forms to lamda.hf@gmail.com and to make payment electronically. If this is not possible, forms will be sent, and can be returned by post.

It is essential to supply a 1st and 2nd choice for session availability in order to try and keep year groups together as much as possible. Failure to do so may result in a place not being available.

Once a place has been offered and accepted, this cannot be changed. It is not possible for pupils to swap from one group to another.

If your son/daughter is bringing a packed lunch into Hales (for Years 5 & 6 this will be essential due to staggered lunch timings), please only send them with food/drinks containers that they can open themselves.

Hales pupils will need to bring their own pens, pencils and dictionaries to the session. Parents will be notified when they are needed.

Performance pieces will be handed out to pupils and need to be kept in their LAMDA folder. All practice reminders will be sent electronically to parents and pupils (Hales).

Parents are requested to remind their son/daughter to observe physical distancing guidelines during LAMDA. Pupils will be reminded but persistent failure to do so will result in SLT and parents being made aware. If the safety of the group is still compromised, this could result in pupils not being allowed to attend.

Parents are asked to physically distance from staff and other parents when collecting pupils after school. Any enquiries should be made by email in the first instance to lamda.hf@gmail.com

If there are any disruptions following a local lockdown, Hales pupils will be offered online sessions via Teams subject to a signed online agreement. Swallows pupils will be offered distance learning activities.

Application for LAMDA Group Tuition.

HLF

Please complete and return this application form to lamda.hf@gmail.com If a place is available you will receive a confirmation email and invoice by email, which needs to be paid prior to the first lesson. Please take a copy of this form for your records. Please specify pupil's 1st and 2nd choice availability for lessons.

Pupil's Name	
Date of Birth	
Year Group	
Address	
Parent/Guardian Email	
Parent/Guardian Tel	
1st Choice:	2nd Choice:
<i>A place may not be available if you don't provide a second choice.</i>	

I would like to enrol my son/daughter (delete as appropriate) for LAMDA Lessons. I have read and understood the Terms and Conditions below.

Signed: _____ (parent/guardian)

Printed: _____

Date: _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Fees are due each term in full, **before** the first lesson of term or if mid-term on receipt of invoice. Failure to pay fees will lead to the termination of lessons with fees still owing. Once a place has been offered and accepted, pupils cannot swap to another group. If the place cannot be filled by a new pupil, the notice period will apply. Pupils will not be collected for lessons where payment has not been made.
2. If a pupil misses a lesson due to absence from school, fees cannot be refunded. For pupils self-isolating, distance learning or online lessons (where there are a two pupils or more) will be offered subject to a signed online learning agreement.
3. If the Teacher is obliged to cancel a scheduled lesson, the lesson will be made up by the Teacher at a future date or credited on the following term's account. If a lesson is cancelled due to a school event (with the exception of sports fixtures), wherever possible, arrangements will be made for a replacement lesson, however this cannot be guaranteed. In the event of a local lockdown or school closure, pupils will be offered online teaching via Teams (Hales pupils) and distance learning activities (Swallows pupils). Online lessons can only commence where a signed online learning agreement has been received.
4. Pupils shall only be entered for any examination with the prior consent of both the Teacher and the Pupil's parent or guardian. Once entered, if the pupil fails to make steady progress, the Teacher reserves the right to withdraw them from the examination. Pupils will be entered adhering strictly to LAMDA's current exam policy.
5. Notice to discontinue lessons must be given in writing and be received by the Teacher at the start of the half term holiday preceding that in which the lessons are to be discontinued. i.e.) One **Half Term's** advance notice to stop lessons is required. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that notice arrives within the correct timescale. If notice to terminate lessons is received late, then the whole of the following half term's fees will be payable to the Teacher in lieu of notice. i.e.) One **Full Term's** fees are due to the Teacher. Unless lessons are terminated as above, this Agreement shall continue from term to term.
6. Pupils need to observe physical distancing guidelines during LAMDA. Pupils will be regularly reminded, but persistent failure to do so will result in SLT and parents being made aware. If the safety of the group is still compromised, this

could result in pupils not being allowed to attend. If the Teacher, using their discretion, feels unable to continue tuition on account of conduct by the Pupil or anyone connected with the Pupil, which makes it unethical or unsafe to continue teaching the Pupil, the fees for any outstanding lessons will not be refundable.