

this is Best

*theatre fun for children
from 6 to 16 years old*



information pack

Hello, NAME, welcome to Best!

What is Best?

Best is a dynamic, successful and well-established part-time performing arts school for children aged 6 to 16. Here, young people build their confidence, discover exciting talents and make new friends. Best is more than just a theatre thing - it's a social thing!



Parents act their shoe size!



Best bears arrive



Bad hair day

Our term time classes

Each week, our students have an hour of coaching in acting, singing and dancing, adding up to three hours of expert tuition. Group sizes are kept small and are split by age so that the tuition can be specifically tailored to the needs of each group. As children move through the school the work becomes progressively more advanced and stretching, whilst the emphasis is always firmly on having FUN!

All our staff are fully CRB checked and referenced.

Acting

As we explore different techniques and styles of acting, we work with texts, learn how to build characters and invent our own stories. Each term has a distinct and dynamic programme which can be anything from improvisation to Shakespeare, geared specifically to each age group. We try to find the perfect blend of individual and group work and there are plenty of drama games and opportunities to perform. These lessons quickly inspire the students to take significant steps forward in confidence whilst having great fun!

Dancing

Our approach encourages everyone to give it a go. Students build confidence quickly and classes are energetic and buzzing. Jazz and modern musical styles are the key elements, but we bring in everything from street and hip-hop to strictly. We strike a balance between individual technique and group choreography and the performance pieces are often breathtaking!

Singing

There's more to singing than just hitting the right notes. We teach rhythm, listening, harmony and vocal variation, encouraging our students to sing out and to tackle different styles like pop and musical theatre, singing solos, in groups and in harmony. The results are often surprising, sometimes moving but always impressive.

Performances

Naturally, performance is an important part of what we do and all students get plenty of opportunities to put new skills to good use.

Public shows



Our annual public show is in the spring and is held at a local theatre with all the glitz, glamour, lighting and costumes you'd expect. We make a unique promise that every student will have plenty to do and to ensure this happens we write our own shows. These are full length musicals with great storylines, fantastic characters, wonderful songs and spectacular dances.

These shows are a brilliant experience for the children, some of whom will be feeling the immense buzz of performance for the first time. Equally important is the experience of getting there - exploring characters, developing the plot, learning lines and choreography and working together as a real team.



End of term showings

At the end of most terms we put on a showing of some of the term's work. At Christmas we invite everyone in for mince pies, coffee and a musical showcase, perhaps even a pantomime.

In the summer term we give our oldest group a special project of their own that might result in another public show at a local theatre. This allows them to tackle more complex material and to work in a highly focused and exciting way. Without the oldest group, the younger groups seize their chance to take on more responsibility for their end of term showing to parents or can focus on other exciting and challenging projects such as group LAMDA certificates.

LAMDA classes

LAMDA classes are available for individuals or duos in a large number of fascinating categories - e.g. acting, verse speaking, devised drama. These are optional projects leading to certificates (and even UCAS points) and classes take place on Wednesday or Thursday evenings at Beaumont School. Our success rates are stunning - please ask for more information if this may be something of interest to you.

Holiday courses

Our Best Academy courses in the spring and summer vacations have become immensely popular, providing a thrilling week of fun, friendship and theatre culminating in a spectacular theatre show. Each week has a different theme so children can come to as many as they like and as we are OFSTED registered Childcare Vouchers can be used towards the fees. Our basic script is fleshed out by the children during the morning classes of acting, singing and dancing.

In the afternoons the group unite to put the show together. After the show the children leave with a great feeling of achievement, not to mention a cool t-shirt, themed personalised certificate, souvenir photo and many happy memories.



Our 2010 groups worked on three very different but equally exciting projects...

What do people say...

Best has a fantastic reputation and many of our students arrive through recommendation. We are always thrilled to receive comments like these:-

"I think you are amazing at creating the right environment for children to be challenged and to have fun at the same time. You care for and encourage the children and give them room for independence and growth and all the time they are really enjoying it."
Frankie's Mum

"Inclusivity, every child matters, welcoming environment, family orientated feeling, fun for all!"
Misty's Mum

"You motivate and inspire both the children and their parents. Your approach allows the children to learn many really valuable life skills which should see them well in their futures."
Adam's Dad

"The teachers are all fantastic role models, so encouraging and positive. Everyone is made to feel confident and positive - you bring out the best in the children by recognising them as individuals and seeing their abilities - that is what makes Best so special."
Alex's Dad

"You've got some magic going on here!"
Lauren's Mum