



Message from the Principal



Tring Park School for the Performing Arts provides an environment which combines natural talent and creativity with inspired teaching.

Tring Park is unique. Talented children and young people benefit from an excellent standard of training in the performing arts, complemented by a very high level of academic education. This results in rounded individuals who are fully prepared for life – not just trained performers, but ‘thinking’ performers.

We know that every single one of our pupils is different. We aim to provide training and education which meets the needs of each individual and allows them to achieve their ambitions.

The school is a very exciting place to be. A glance at the timetable shows how much we do during the week, vocationally and academically, both inside and outside school. All this performing, training and learning requires a great deal of dedication and commitment from both staff and pupils and this creates a stimulating environment within a supportive community.

I encourage you to come and visit us and experience the school for yourself. I look forward to welcoming you.

With my very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stefan Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin blue horizontal line.

Stefan Anderson

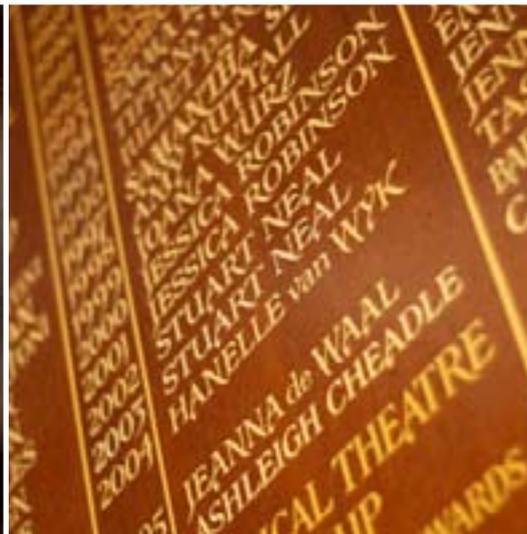


About the school

Tring Park School for the Performing Arts offers a unique opportunity for gifted young people to specialise in Dance, Drama, Musical Theatre or Music, whilst gaining an excellent academic education to GCSE, BTEC and A level. Pupils perform regularly at the highest level, both at our own Markova Theatre as well as in London and throughout the UK and Europe.

The school is located in Tring, Hertfordshire, only 33 miles from Central London. Housed in a former Rothschild mansion, it was founded in 1945 and is set in 17 acres of grounds. With a maximum of 300 pupils aged 8–19, it provides accommodation for up to 200 boarders and 100 day pupils.

Along with the traditional academic facilities, we have a purpose-built theatre, many large dance studios, drama rehearsal rooms, music rooms, plus music technology and music composition rooms. We also have a digital video-editing suite. The school is currently undergoing a major ongoing building programme, details of which may be found on our website.



The Curriculum

Tring Park stands at the forefront of artistic specialist education in the UK. It offers a unique opportunity for young people who show an outstanding talent for the performing arts, while still recognising the benefits of a fine academic education.

In the Preparatory Department our youngest pupils have an integrated day. Part of their time is spent following the National Curriculum and this is interspersed with vocational training in the performing arts. Most lessons are taught by their form teacher although specialist staff cover Art, French and swimming lessons.

In the Junior School two vocational courses are offered in Dance and Theatre Arts. The academic element follows the requirements of the National Curriculum with a full range of subjects.

In the Middle and Senior School we offer the following vocational courses:

- Dance course – *Fourth Form to Third Year Sixth Form*
- Performance Foundation course – *Fourth and Fifth Forms*
- Musical Theatre course – *Sixth Form with optional Third Year Sixth Form*
- Drama course – *Sixth Form with optional Third Year Sixth Form*

On the academic side in the Fourth and Fifth Forms (GCSE) compulsory subjects are English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and a modern foreign language (French or German). Pupils also choose two or three additional subjects.

In the Sixth Form, pupils will normally choose between two and four AS levels to study in the Lower Sixth and will usually take two or three A2 subjects in the Upper Sixth.

The BTEC in Performing Arts is also offered in the Sixth Form, either in the form of the National Diploma or the National Certificate. The BTEC may be combined with A level studies.

The great strength of the academic provision in the Sixth Form is that the programme of study can be tailored to the needs, abilities and future career plans of the individual.



“The students’ work speaks for both school and themselves. Professional discipline is clearly coupled with the development of individuals within a highly productive arena. The overall achievement level is high and commendable.”

2008 Trinity Moderation Report

The Dance course at Tring Park offers a nurturing environment where each child can achieve his or her utmost potential. The depth and breadth of training offered is respected by dance companies and choreographers worldwide, ensuring that dancers are versatile and prepared for a lifetime career in Dance.

The course covers not only a strong classical training – dancers are also prepared for work in contemporary, jazz and commercial dance. Whilst pupils may take formal examinations, they are also offered a wide range of performance opportunities and can take workshops with visiting guest artists. Graduates now dance with leading dance companies including English National Ballet, Royal Ballet, Rambert Dance Company, Birmingham Royal Ballet and New Adventures. Annual performances take place at school and in London’s West End, attended by leading choreographers and artistic directors. Many of our graduates have also achieved secondary careers in areas such as choreography and artistic direction.

// Dance



// Drama

"I simply had to write to say what an inventive, life-affirming and joyous piece of theatre it was. I went home feeling on top of the world – cheery and optimistic. A heartfelt thank you – (my son) is having the time of his life!"

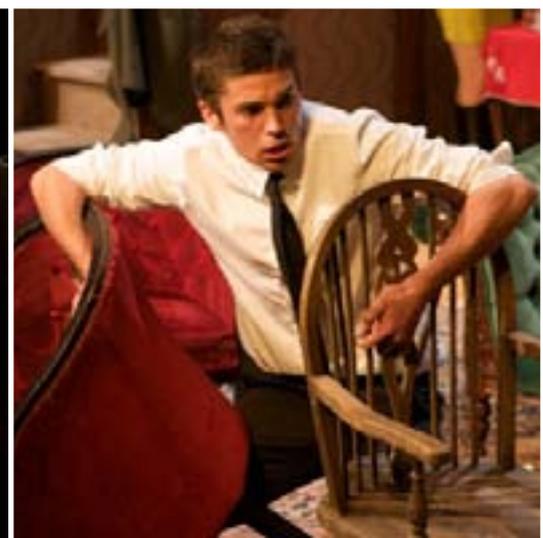
Tring Park parent

The Sixth Form Drama course provides a unique opportunity to develop skills and techniques in a dynamic, exciting and professional environment. Whether a pupil has aspirations to be an actor or a wish to develop a career in the performing arts, we provide the personal, technical and artistic training to help them achieve their goal.

A strong theatre company ethos is fostered and students participate in a variety of performances throughout the year. We participate in the Theatre in Education project, developing a show based on an educational topic or debate and the performance tours local primary schools. Many students also participate in the National Student Drama Festival, attending workshops and debates at this week-long, world-renowned celebration of theatre and live performance.

The two-year course, undertaken in the Sixth Form, includes classes covering voice, classical and modern text, physical theatre, movement for actors, acting study, improvisation, dance and singing.

Development of extended theatre skills is encouraged and pupils learn costume making, set, lighting and sound design. We also make good use of the school's excellent film and editing equipment.



“The real shocker of this show is that it’s performed by 17-18 year olds who are batting way above their weight in the talent department. The best compliment I can pay these guys is that I seriously thought I was watching a professional production until I read the programme after the show.”

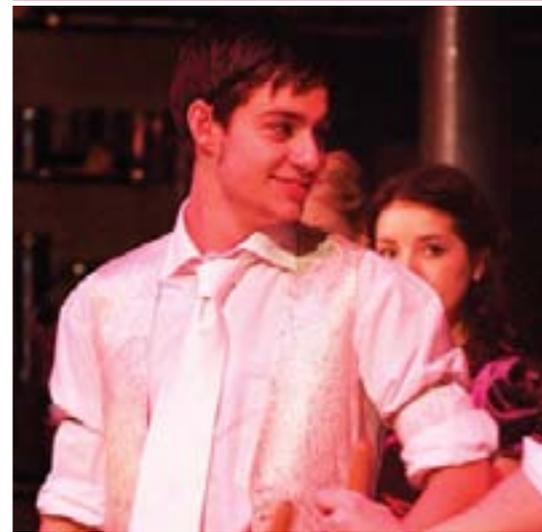
Pete Shaw, Review of ‘A Nice Life’ at the Edinburgh Fringe

The Musical Theatre course provides Sixth Form students with a strong understanding and knowledge of technique in the specialist skills essential for a musical theatre professional – singing, dance and drama.

A programme of performances, workshops and master classes reflects the multifaceted nature of the profession. Students perform in the school theatre, as well as a variety of theatres across London and the UK. Project-based opportunities provide invaluable experience. Examples of these can be found on our website.

We also have a track record in assisting students gain places with specialist further education providers that can otherwise be notoriously difficult to achieve. We have excellent links with agents and students are frequently signed to an agent before they leave the school.

// Musical Theatre



// Music

“The contribution made by the (Tring Park) pupils to this concert was outstanding, adding significantly to the sound of the choir, and singing with a professionalism, power and clarity of tone which was truly striking.”

Richard Cooke, Conductor, Royal Choral Society

Straddling both the academic and vocational areas of the curriculum, the Music Department works closely with other departments to provide musical training, broadening and enriching the pupil's perception of either Dance, Drama or Musical Theatre.

A wide range of genres is offered and many pupils go on to further education in this subject. Music is taught to GCSE, AS and A2 Level, and Music Technology to AS and A2 level.

Tring Park's choirs perform regularly across Europe. Working closely with Richard Cooke, conductor of the Royal Choral Society, the school's award winning choirs have performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall and at Canterbury Cathedral.

Practical music skills form the basis of class work in the Lower School and individual tuition is available in a number of instruments. Pupils may enter examinations from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Rockschool, LCM Music Theatre and Guildhall.



The Theatre Arts course is designed to develop the 'triple threat': acting, singing and dancing. Pupils aged 11-14 have the opportunity to develop these three techniques in equal measure.

Pupils participate in a variety of projects throughout the year which may involve musical, classical theatre or devised work, which often result in a public performance. There is a large-scale production in the school's Markova Theatre in June.

After completion of the Theatre Arts course, pupils follow the Performance Foundation course, taken in the Fourth and Fifth Form.

In the first term pupils audition for either a musical or a play, both showcased in the Markova Theatre. In subsequent terms there is the option to participate in either a drama or a musical theatre project, which may culminate in an in-house performance.

At the end of the second year of the Performance Foundation course (Fifth Form), pupils have a sound grounding in acting, singing and dancing technique enabling them to make an informed choice about which vocational pathway to continue into the Sixth Form.

// Theatre Arts

// Performance
Foundation



// Academic

“A successful performer is a well educated performer”

Tring Park offers a range of specialist Performing Arts courses, backed up by a strong academic provision. The balanced curriculum sets us apart from other schools and provides pupils with a well-rounded education, enabling them to achieve high academic excellence and versatility as a performer.

All pupils follow courses in line with the National Curriculum up to GCSE where pupils typically take 8-9 subjects. In the Sixth Form we offer flexible programmes of study – 17 A level subjects are available, plus a BTEC Certificate or Diploma in Performance Arts.

Whilst the majority of our pupils pursue careers in the performing arts, a significant number win places at leading British and international universities, including Oxbridge and Russell Group institutions. Former pupils have gone on to study a wide range of subjects, including Law, Medicine, Architecture, Physics, Actuarial Science and Engineering.

Small classes, taught by well-qualified, highly experienced graduate teachers, ensure that every pupil is given the best chance possible to attain their maximum potential.



Reach4Dance

Reach4Dance is our principal community outreach and partnership programme which provides those with limited access an opportunity to engage with dance and be inspired by positive role models. We offer our knowledge and expertise to community and independent partner schools, aiming to inspire and ignite a spark of interest in every child. We also offer Days of Dance and special projects for keen young dancers who already participate in formal dance training.

Reach4Dance is a constantly developing outreach and partnership programme which we strive to make an innovative and rewarding front-runner in its field.

The current Reach4Dance programme includes:

- Schools' performance and extended learning workshops
- Days of Dance
- Open dress rehearsals
- Christmas House Party ballet weekend

Tring Park holds an annual Easter School for Dance, Musical Theatre and Drama which includes Theatre Arts and Performance Foundation. Our community links also include our Theatre in Education programme and our performances for local preparatory and primary schools as well as local charities.

Junior Conservatoire

The school offers a Junior Conservatoire programme in both dance and the performing arts. Training is provided for young local Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre children (age 5-18) with entry by audition. Classes take place after school and at weekends. Please visit our website for full details.

// Community



// School life

Pupil support

Each child is supported by a personal tutor throughout their time at Tring Park and all pupils are under the care of a resident housemistress/master.

Boarding pupils

Accommodation for boarding pupils is arranged by age group in single sex houses. Final year students live in houses located in the town. All houses have a resident housemistress/master.

Day pupils

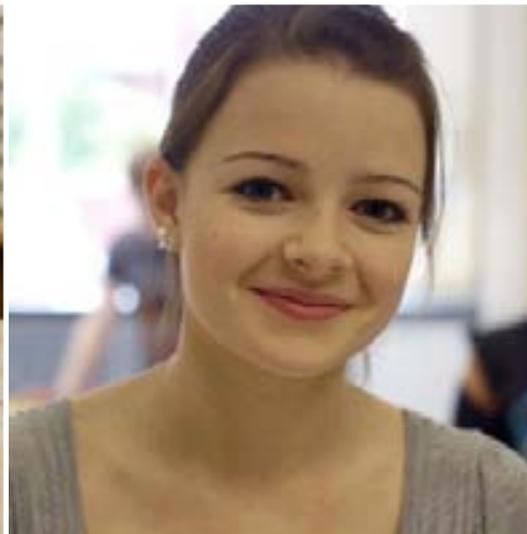
Day pupils are under the care of the pastoral staff during the school day. They are free to go home at the end of the school day or stay on for prep, activities and supper by arrangement.

Uniform

All pupils except Sixth Form wear separate uniforms for academic and vocational lessons. Sixth Form students may wear suitable attire for all lessons and are only required to wear uniform on formal occasions.

Spirituality

Pupils attend daily assembly. All boarders, except Sixth Form, attend a monthly Sunday service at the local Parish Church. There is a Roman Catholic Church in Tring attended by pupils and staff, and pupils of other faiths are given time and space to observe their own practices.



// School life

Weekend activities

Pupils use the local sports facilities on weekday evenings and at weekends. They may visit Tring, or with parental permission, other nearby towns. There is also a regular programme of leisure activities to theme parks, cinemas and sports centres.

School trips

Trips are organised throughout the year to allow pupils to attend performances in London and provincial theatres. Academic studies also benefit from regular field trips, planned throughout the year.

Catering

The school boasts a large, well-equipped dining room and all meals are prepared on site. We also cater for any special dietary requirements.

Medical services

Tring Park has a fully equipped sanatorium. The school doctor holds surgeries twice a week; physiotherapists are employed on site and staff are specially trained to deal with dance injuries.

Counselling

The school employs two independent external counsellors who provide confidential twice-weekly evening sessions for pupils.

Child Protection

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all staff are subject to an enhanced CRB check before appointment.



// Admissions

Entry to Tring Park School for the Performing Arts is by audition. An academic test for those below 16 years of age is also required. Auditions and tests are held regularly throughout the year.

Application forms can be downloaded from the school's website, or are available on request. These should be completed and returned to the Admissions Department.

Open Days

The school usually holds three Open Days each year and will invite families interested in joining Tring Park to attend.

Scholarships

A number of scholarship places are available at Tring Park. These include both the Government assisted Music and Dance Scheme (MDS) and the Post 16 Dance and Drama Awards (DaDA), both for Dance courses only. The school also offers a substantial number of scholarships for the Drama, Musical Theatre, Performance Foundation and Theatre Arts courses.

Details on how to apply for each of these schemes may be found on the website.

Please contact the Admissions Department with any questions relating to auditions, or Open Days by e-mailing info@tringpark.com or calling +44 (0) 1442 824 255.



Design and art direction:
www.frinkdesign.com

Photography:
Gentle Visions Photography (www.gentlevisions.co.uk)
Asya Verzhbinsky (www.asyav-images.com)
Michael David Smith
Paul Phillips

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Tring Park School for the Performing Arts

Tring
Hertfordshire
HP23 5LX
United Kingdom

T +44 (0) 1442 824 255
F +44 (0) 1442 891 069
E info@tringpark.com
W www.tringpark.com

