

Arts Award and young musicians



Why do Arts Award?

It fits well with all your other musical activities

It develops your communication skills

You can choose to record and evidence your work in fun, creative ways, including online

You build a portfolio of all your activities showing how your musical learning has progressed

It gives you an extra nationally recognised qualification

It gives you leadership experience

It helps you think clearly about your musical learning



How is it different to music grade exams?

Arts Award is a portfolio-based qualification which fits well alongside graded music exams, or as a stand-alone qualification. For your Arts Award you will get involved in practical music making, listening to live music, doing research and finding out about musicians who inspire you, and passing on your skills or leading projects. As you go along you collect evidence of your musical Arts Award journey. You can do this online, or in an arts log which is assessed by your Arts Award adviser.

There are five Arts Award levels, and the higher levels require you to pass your skills on to someone else or plan and lead a project. This helps to develop your communication skills and self confidence, and can help with other school or college work you are doing.

How does it compare to grade exams?

Arts Award	Qualification level	Music Grades (equivalent standard)	School Exams (equivalent level of difficulty)
Discover	Introductory Award	N/A	N/A
Explore	Entry Level 3	Initial (Trinity College London)	N/A
Bronze	Level 1	1 – 3	GCSE Grades D – G
Silver	Level 2	4 – 5	GCSE Grades A* – C
Gold	Level 3	6 – 8	AS Level (16 UCAS points)

artsaward.org.uk

artsaward.org.uk/qualification

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