Leeds Grand Youth Theatre (LGYT)

Information pack

Welcome to LGYT. We're so excited to be part of your journey. In this pack you'll learn a little more about the LGYT sessions and the team. We can't wait to meet you!



1. What happens at LGYT?
2. When and where?
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1. **What happens at LGYT?**

We meet most Saturdays in term time for fun and creative sessions led by our Youth Theatre Programme Director, professional artists and our friendly Learning & Engagement team. You'll learn new skills, grow in confidence and make new friends for life. We may occasionally have extra rehearsals in the run-up to a show, but dates will always be agreed in advance.

You will have the exciting chance to perform at Leeds Heritage Theatre venues and explore what happens behind the scenes at professional theatres.

It doesn't matter whether you've performed before or are trying theatre for the first time, everyone is welcome! You'll develop skills in acting, movement, and using your voice. Along the way, you'll also build important skills for life like confidence, teamwork, focus, empathy, creative thinking, and problem-solving.



Your happiness and wellbeing is very important to us. Every session takes place in a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment where you can be yourself, try new things, and have fun.

Sessions usually begin with a warm-up and some games before moving on to the main activity, which could be drama, dance, or singing. Each week will bring something different, but the friendly and familiar session structure will stay mostly the same.



What happens at LGYT? - Continued

Throughout the year, groups will have opportunities to enjoy both performance and skills-based terms, combining the excitement of sharing work with an audience with time to experiment, build confidence and discover new skills.

Skills Term

Try something new, stretch your imagination and build your toolkit as a performer. Explore acting, singing, dance, movement and physical theatre with professional artists, developing your creativity alongside confidence, communication and teamwork. These sessions give you space to play, explore ideas and learn together in a supportive environment , whether you're taking your first steps or ready for your next creative challenge.

Performance Term

Be part of an ensemble and discover the excitement of making theatre for an audience. From musicals on the City Varieties stage to a play in our studio, a curtain-raiser before another show or a site specific performance , opportunities can take different forms. You'll work together to shape a performance, develop your stagecraft and experience the journey from rehearsal room to sharing your work. We'll support and challenge you along the way, with teamwork and every member's contribution at the heart of the process.

Across both types of term, the focus is on growing together, finding your voice and having fun making theatre. Activities will be tailored to each group, so everyone can be supported and creatively challenged.



2. Class times

Members are divided into groups based on age and meet on most Saturdays in term-time:

Group	Time	Age	School year
Story Explorers	9.15am - 10am	5-8	Year 1 - 3
Group 1	10.30am - 12pm	8 - 11	Year 4 - 6
Group 2	1pm - 2.45pm	12 - 14	Year 7 - 9
Group 3	3.30pm - 5.30pm	15 - 18	Year 12 - 13

We meet and rehearse in the studio at Leeds Grand Theatre, we usually perform shows at City Varieties Music Hall or within our studio space.



Leeds Grand Theatre - Studio



City Varieties Music Hall - Stage

During a production term the Youth Theatre timetable will vary, Group 1 may be called for additional rehearsal and Groups 2 - 3 will be called for a longer rehearsal call. There are also additional singing rehearsals for those who have solo-singing roles. Please see the 'Production Term Schedule' page for more information.

3. Spring Term Production Schedule - Story Explorers* and Groups 1 - 3

*Whilst Story Explorers will be part of our weekly Saturday sessions, they will not take part in the production aspects of LGYT, compared to Groups 1, 2 and 3. They will have an alternative performance opportunity.

Date	Time	Who is called
9/01/2027 Week 1	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
16/01/2027 Week 2	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
23/01/2027 Week 3	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3

Spring Term Production Schedule - Continued

Date	Time	Who is called
30/01/2027 Week 4	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
06/02/2027 Week 5	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
27/02/2027 Week 6	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
06/03/2027 Week 7	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3

Spring Term Production Schedule - Continued

Date	Time	Who is called
13/03/2027 Week 8	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3
20/03/2027 Week 9	9.15am - 10am	Story Explorers
	10.30am - 12pm	Group 1
	1pm - 2.45pm	Group 2
	3.30pm - 5.30pm	Group 3

There will be additional music and singing rehearsals for those who have solo songs within the production.

Summer production key dates (Full schedule TBC)

- **Whole Company May Half-Term Rehearsals:** Tue 25 and Wed 26 May, 10am - 5pm
- **Whole Company Rehearsal:** Sat 10 July, 10am - 5pm
- **Whole Company Rehearsal:** Sat 17 July, 10am - 5pm
- **Technical Rehearsals:** Mon 19, Tue 20 and Wed 21 July, 4.30pm - 9pm
- **Open Dress Rehearsal:** Thu 22 July (Times TBC)
- **Performance 1**: Fri 23 July, 7pm - 9.30pm (call time: 4.30pm)
- **Performances 2 and 3:** Sat 24 July, 2pm and 7pm (call time: 12.30pm)
- **Performance 4:** Sun 25 July, 7pm - 9.30pm (call time: 4.30pm)

Please note: Group 1 will be split into two teams and will not perform in every show.

4. How much does LGYT cost?

LGYT costs £480 per year for three terms (£160 per term), including production dates and all additional rehearsals.

From the Spring Term 2027, bookings and payments for Leeds Grand Youth Theatre will move to Spektrix, the box office system we use for our shows. Families will be able to book places online. We will also introduce a new membership and waiting list process, with a priority booking period for current members before bookings open to the public.

These changes will:

- Make booking simpler and more accessible for families.
- Allow you to book online at a time that suits you.
- Help the Youth Theatre team maintain accurate attendance records.
- Ensure places and payments are confirmed before the start of term.
- Replace our longstanding waiting list with a clearer, term-based process so that available places can be offered fairly and promptly.

Please note: By booking a place for the Spring Term, you are committing your young person to participating in our Summer 2027 production and two terms.

How to Book for January 2027

- Priority booking for current Autumn Term LGYT members opens at 10am on 10 November 2026.

- During the priority booking period, current members can book online using a password-protected link or by phone. The link and password will be sent one week before booking opens.

- Public booking opens at 10am on 15 December 2026. From this date, both new and current members can book through our website on a first-come, first-served basis. Current members can still book, but places in their current class are no longer guaranteed once public booking opens.

Waiting List

If a class is full, you will be added to the Box Office waiting list. This term-based waiting list will operate during the first three weeks of the Spring Term. If a participant withdraws during this period, places will be offered directly to those on the waiting list.

Don't let cost be a barrier!

Please note we also offer a limited number of free places/financial support to families who might struggle to cover the cost. If you would like to find out more, please contact the Learning team for a free place application form: learning@leedsheritagetheatres.com.

Data Protection Act 1998: The information that you provide on our free places form will be used only for the purpose of processing free places. Leeds Heritage Theatres (LHT) is under a duty to protect the funds they handle and may use this information you have provided on this form to prevent and detect fraud. This information will not be passed to any third parties. Once your free place application has been assessed, supporting documentation will be returned to you or destroyed.

5. Meet the team



SJ

SJ is the Youth Theatre Programme Director. She will usually lead LGYT sessions and will direct the end of year show.



Dawn

Dawn is the Movement Director. Dawn teaches us choreography and often leads physical warm-ups to get us ready for an LGYT session.



Jacob

Jacob is the Musical Director at LGYT. He teaches us singing and how to use our voices safely. Jacob also conducts the band in our end of year musical.



Ashley



Imogen



Hollie

Ashley and Imogen are part of the Learning & Engagement team. They will be at LGYT sessions to take care of you and make sure everyone is having a good time. Ashley and Imogen love to get involved in all the activities! If you have any issues or questions you can always talk to them.

Hollie is also in the Learning & Engagement team, however she will not usually be at LGYT sessions. Hollie is the Coordinator, so will often contact parents/carers on the team's behalf about LGYT.

6. Code of conduct

LGYT members are expected to:

- Listen carefully to direction and task setting.
- Maintain focus and concentration.
- Respect and take other people's ideas seriously.
- Always treat others with respect, regardless of their gender, ethnic origin, disability, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or for any other unfair reason.
- All conversations at LGYT should be appropriate and kind to others. Do not use language that may embarrass or demoralise others.
- Co-operate with their group by adapting and compromising.
- Take risks in a supportive atmosphere by trying new ideas or techniques.
- Learn from other actors' mistakes and successes.
- Give constructive and balanced criticism by pointing out both positive and negative aspects of the performance.
- Have FUN.

Practicalities

- Be prompt. The session will start on time! Don't get left behind.
- Always come dressed appropriately in workshop clothes that enable you to move freely.
- Mobile phones to be switched off or on silent (and non-vibrating).
- Once in the building ensure you always tell a member of the Learning team where you are.
- Let us know in advance if you know that you'll be late for a session or need to leave early.
- If you need to bring a snack or a drink, we will have a short break in the middle of the session. Don't go hungry! (There is a water machine available).

Our behaviour support process

- If your behaviour is disruptive to the class, we will speak to you individually.
- If your behaviour remains disruptive, contact will be made directly with your parent/carer.
- If your behaviour continues to be disruptive, you will be asked to leave the class.
- If your behaviour or language is deemed inappropriate, contact will be made with your parent/carer immediately.

If at any time you or your parent/carer wish to discuss anything, please contact the team at learning@leedsheritagetheatres.com or ring 07738 267757 to speak to a member of the team.