



STAGEWORKS  
COLLEGE

COLLEGE INFORMATION  
PACK

FOR TEACHERS AND CAREER  
ADVISERS

BUILT ON A PASSION FOR SUCCESS

FRED  
ASTAIRE

# CONTENTS

About us	page 3
Our college courses	page 4
Fees	page 5
Location and accommodation	page 6
Audition process	page 7
What we can do for you	page 8
Academic enhancement	page 9
Student welfare	page 9
Progression	page 10
Extra-curricular classes	page 11

# ABOUT US

At Stageworks, we are proud to offer full-time, professional training for students aged 16-21 who are passionate about performing. We are both a sixth-form alternative and higher education provider, as we offer foundation level training as well as a degree level course.

All students train five days a week and are taught by leading industry experts. All of our students receive a personalised training programme which we regularly review, adapting their targets and goals so that they remain motivated and challenged.

Each year group is a maximum of 40 students which allows for key one-to-one contact time and continued professional and pastoral support throughout the course.

**This information pack has been designed for teachers and career advisers, to explain what we can offer your college and your students.**

**if you have any further questions please contact us on [marketing@stageworksstudio.co.uk](mailto:marketing@stageworksstudio.co.uk) or call 01480 223331.**



# OUR COLLEGE COURSES

We offer three courses:

- 2 Year Foundation Course in Musical Theatre
- 2 Year Foundation Course in Acting
- 3 Year Professional Performance Course

## 2 Year Foundation Course (Musical Theatre or Acting)

- The aim of the Foundation Course is to prepare students for next-level training.
- Designed for students leaving year 11 (but we can take students aged 16-18).
- Students will train five days a week, between 18-25 hours plus additional rehearsal hours.

- The course is 18 hours of weekly training which includes a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts, which is equivalent to two A-Levels (including UCAS points).

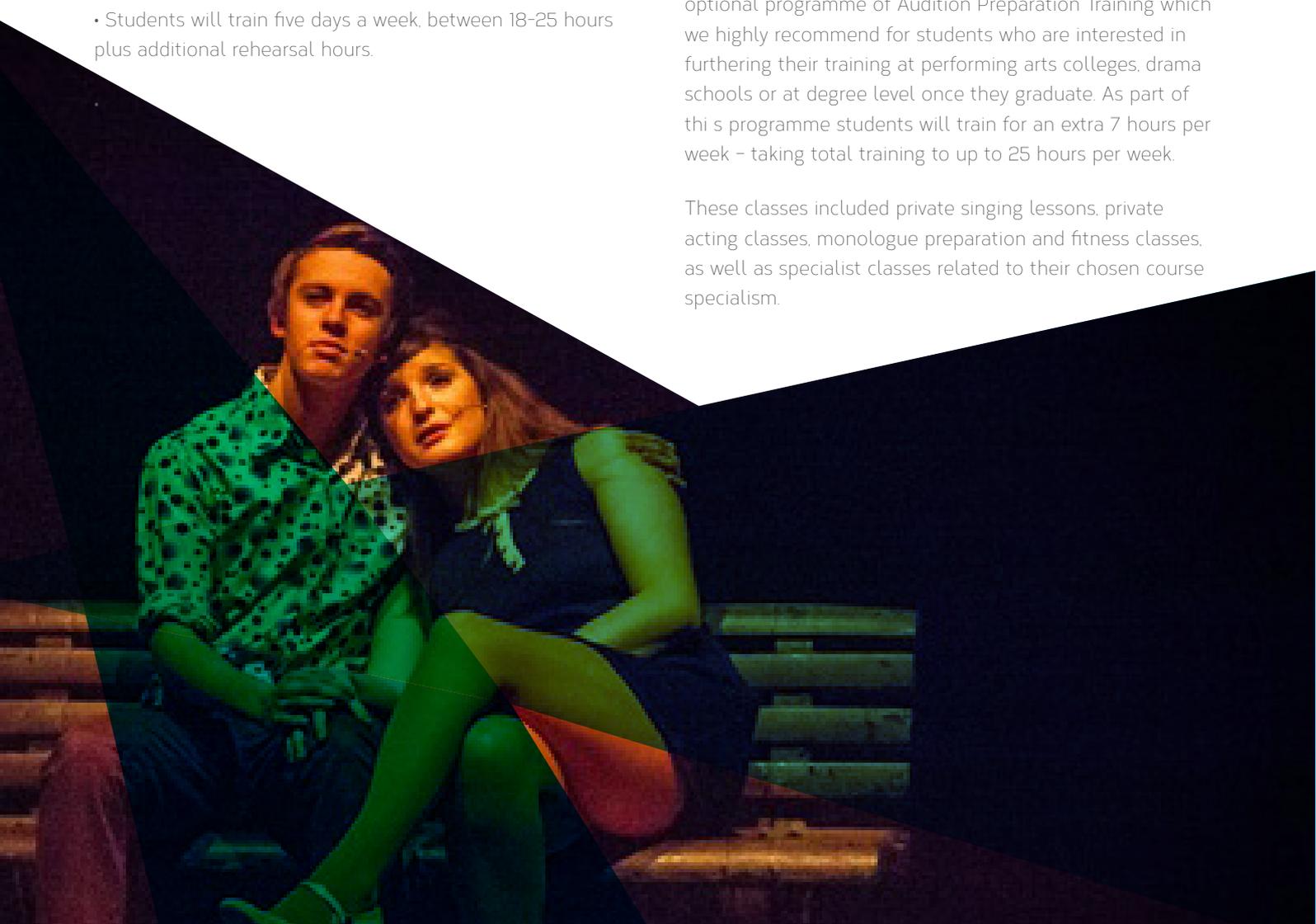
- Students study towards their BTEC for 12 hours per week and are given a further 6 hours training as part of our technical programme.

- Students can only receive funding for this course if they have not already completed a similar vocational qualification at the same level.

## Audition Preparation Programme

In addition to our Foundation Course, we also offer an optional programme of Audition Preparation Training which we highly recommend for students who are interested in furthering their training at performing arts colleges, drama schools or at degree level once they graduate. As part of this programme students will train for an extra 7 hours per week - taking total training to up to 25 hours per week.

These classes included private singing lessons, private acting classes, monologue preparation and fitness classes, as well as specialist classes related to their chosen course specialism.



### 3 Year Professional Performance Course (Musical Theatre)

- Our three year Professional Performance Course offers full-time specialist training in singing, dancing and acting to prepare students for a career in the performing arts industry.
- This course is degree level and aimed at students who have already undertaken some foundation level training.

- Students train for 35+ hours per week and study towards a BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (equivalent to 3 A-Levels).
- Students perform as part of our Company alongside professionals, for maximum exposure to stage and real life experience of being a performer.
- Students can only receive funding for this course if they have not already completed a similar vocational qualification at the same level.

## FEES (All prices include VAT)

**2 Year Foundation Course** – We offer a fully-funded, free training option on our Foundation courses for students who are eligible for ESFA funding. Those eligible for ESFA funding are between ages 16-18, who haven't already gained a BTEC Level 3 Qualification in Performing Arts, or a similar qualification. This means students joining us from year 11 (or students who are under 19 and haven't completed a BTEC Level 3 in a Performing Arts based subject) can train with us for free. For those who cannot receive any funding, the course fees are £6,000 per year (which includes the Audition Preparation Programme).

### 2 Year Foundation Course with Audition Preparation Programme

The cost for this top-up option is £1,500 per year. Government funding is not offered for this programme. Without funding for the Foundation Course, the Foundation Course and Audition Preparation Programme combined are £6,000 per year.

**3 Year Professional Performance Diploma** – Fees for the course from September 2019 are £7,000 per annum or £4,000 per annum for students eligible to study for the BTEC qualification alongside as the government funds the core study hours (funding will apply for three years if the student joins us before their 19th birthday).

Scholarships are available but very limited, so we encourage students to audition as early as possible in the school year.

We work hard to offer high quality training that's affordable for everyone. Our selection process is based on talent which we believe should be nurtured and not defined by finance. Where fees are required to be paid, they are at a realistic and competitive rate and at no compromise to the quality of training.

### Ofsted Report

**"Progression to higher education is very good. Substantial number of Performing Arts students gain scholarships".**



## LOCATION

Stageworks Studios is located in St Neots, Cambridgeshire. The college is within walking distance from St Neots train station and town centre, with a range of shops, cinema and leisure facilities.

Our purpose-built studios are easily accessible

from Cambridge, Peterborough, Bedford, Huntingdon, Stevenage and Stamford.

We are also under an hour away from London Kings Cross via train.

## ACCOMMODATION

For students moving away from home, we have student accommodation which consists of shared student housing a short walk from college, which is managed by our Pastoral and Welfare Officer. Rent is around £350-400 per month including utilities.

Most students find that they are eligible for housing benefit which can drastically reduce the cost, and is not linked to parental income.



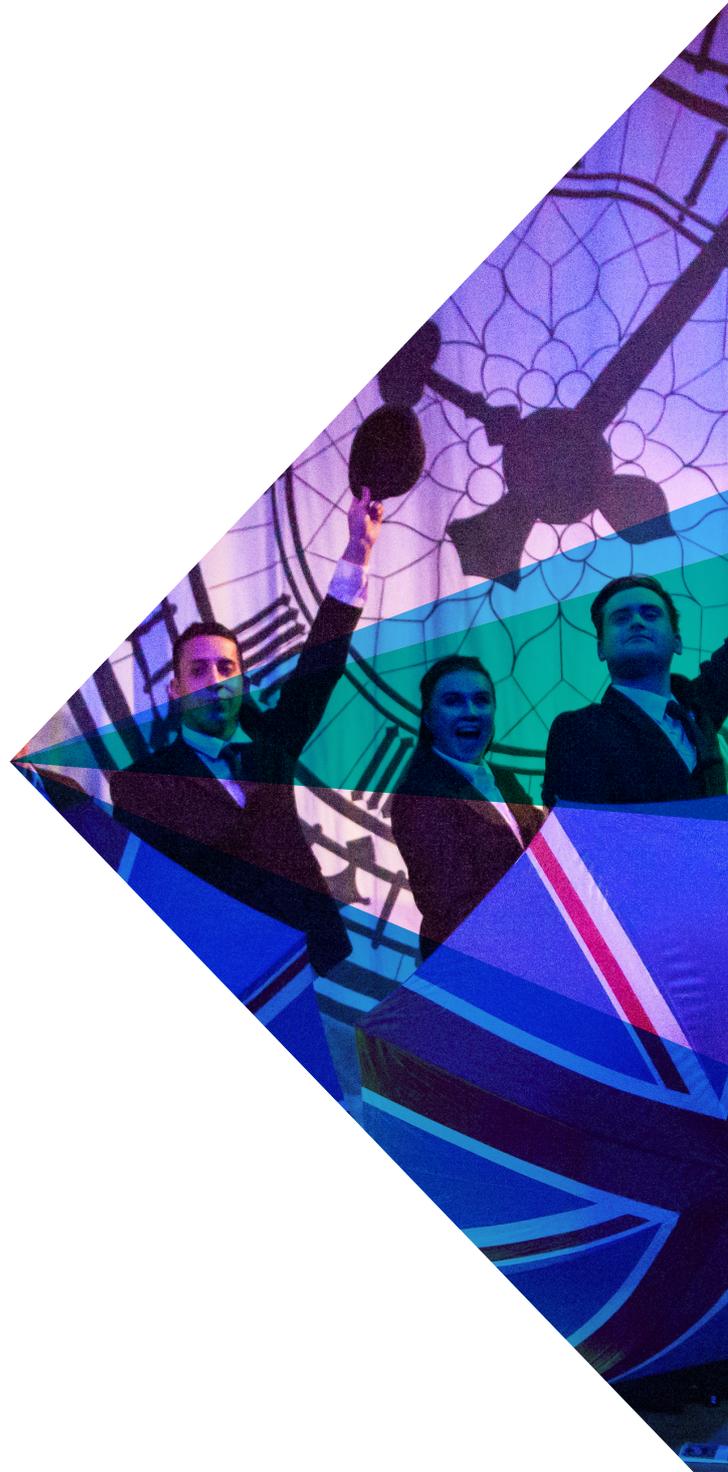
# AUDITION PROCESS

We hold regular auditions at our studios in St Neots, please check our website for the next dates.

However, we understand that getting to our studios isn't easy for everyone, so we have devised a virtual audition process. This means that everyone who wishes to audition for a place with us can, regardless of location, household income, confidence or previous training.

Students who cannot attend our audition day can send us a pre-recorded video of themselves, in their preferred discipline of singing, acting or dancing (or a combination of two or all disciplines). This can be filmed at home and does not need to be a show reel or of professional quality. We would also ask for a short personal statement explaining why the student is passionate about performing arts, which can be written or filmed.

We will then let the student know if we feel they have a real shot of gaining a place and are ready to audition for us, inviting them to attend free of charge. Also, if we have enough interest from certain counties, we are hoping to take our auditions out across the UK so that auditions will be even more accessible.



# WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

We offer free Experience Days for students who are interested in performing and want to explore their options. Our Experience Days include the opportunity to take part in workshops, tour the college, meet the staff and take part in a Performance Q&A session. Please refer to our website for the next Experience Day and Audition dates.

We are also happy to visit schools and provide workshops to those passionate about performing.

We can offer open days for students from your college so they can travel here together and take part in classes.

We are also interested in attending career fairs and can offer discounted tickets for your students if they would like to watch our performances.

## Ofsted Report

**'Staff are highly experienced practising artists who have rich and varied industrial experience & contacts, which they use very well to help the students succeed.'**



# ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT

Performers, being creative people, are not always as comfortable when it comes to writing and with degree courses becoming increasingly popular, it's more important than ever for students to refresh and improve their writing skills.

We have superb support from specialists in reflective writing and UCAS applications who work closely with the students to help put into practice the skills needed in order to successfully self promote themselves on paper or in written exams.

Numerous systems are in place to ensure every student reaches their full potential.

# WELFARE

Staff at Stageworks take the responsibility of welfare very seriously. With students spending many hours in and around the vicinity of college, we are able to take the time to identify personal needs.

With an open door policy for personal, emotional or educational worries, we will always do our up most to help guide students to resolve any issues or concerns. If issues do arise, students and parents alike should feel assured that personal discussions with staff members are kept private and confidential with the required action taken where necessary.

Whilst training with us, all students are given an Individual Learning Plan through communication with the College Principal. This is reviewed regularly and termly assessments ensure students are on track to meet their targets. These assessments will be posted to parents along with records of attendance including any unauthorised or repeat absence.



# PROGRESSION

We prove our courses work year after year with increasing numbers of students graduating with numerous offers to Diploma and Degree courses.

Not only do we see students who received multiple college offers, we also see students who begin their training at Stageworks lacking areas of skill, earn not only places at some of the best colleges in the country, but also receive fully funded offers. To us, this confirms these colleges identify the skill and knowledge of our students and wish to invest in their future training towards a successful career.

**Some of the many colleges our students have earned places at include:**

Arts Educational  
Bird College  
Cambridge Performing Arts  
Laban  
Laine Theatre Arts  
London Contemporary Dance School  
London School of Musical Theatre  
London Studio Centre  
Masters Performing Arts College  
Millennium  
Mountview  
Performers College  
The Urdang Academy

After graduating from their next college, our students can be found working in numerous artistic areas all over the world including performing, teaching, composing, choreographing and directing. All these students have realised their ambitions and will continue to do so for many years to come. We are very proud to have had an input in their success.



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLASSES

As well as offering our full time college courses, Stageworks Studios is one of the largest performing arts schools in Cambridgeshire offering a wide range of classes in dancing, singing and acting.

Our timetable caters for all ages and abilities from toddlers through to teens and adults.

All of our classes are taught by Stageworks professional teachers and take place in the evenings and weekends at our studios in St Neots.

Our classes are also recommended to local students who need to build up technique in certain areas before auditioning or joining the college.





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info@stageworksstudio.co.uk | 01480 22 33 31  
Stageworks Studios, Kings Road, St Neots, Cambs PE19 1BF  
www.[stageworksstudio](http://stageworksstudio.co.uk).co.uk