

Schools Menu 2025-6



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Who are Applause?

Applause can help you bring learning to life with **professional** shows which give your students an **unforgettable** and educational experience through **live performance**.



We are a charitable organisation that collaborates with people across Kent, Sussex, Essex, and the wider regions to create cultural experiences in their local communities.

We have carefully chosen a roster of shows which are **relevant** to the **National Curriculum** for science, English, and music, and use art, puppetry and storytelling, all aimed at **Key Stages 1 and 2**.

We use our charity **funding** to **subsidise** shows ensuring quality live arts are **accessible** to schools and a wide range of children.

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“The event went really well, The children found it really engaging. Thanks so much for supporting us. We could never dream of affording such a high quality show without Applause. “

”

Teacher
Primary School, Kent

Booking shows

“

The show was amazing! It was culturally relevant to our school's diverse community. Thank you so much for bringing the show to our school

”

**Deputy Head Teacher
Primary School, Kent**

How does it work?

This guide lists the shows we have available to book for 2025-26.

Simply choose the show or shows that interest you and we'll do the rest - from arranging the dates, to organising the contracts.

Many of our shows tie in with national awareness dates and make the perfect hook for your school's activities calendar.

How easy is it on the day?

The performers are all experienced in touring to spaces like yours, so the arrangements, arrival and set up are as smooth as possible.

How much does it cost?

Our pricing varies as we work with a mix of schools with different requirements.

Have a chat with our team and we can give you an accurate cost.



Get in touch and we'll help take the pressure off finding visiting shows for your school

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Shows



The Zoo That Comes to You

The Wishing Tree

After the Rain

Splat!

The Untold Fable of Fritz

Jack the Beanstalk

The Mushroom Show

Fishy Tales with the Seabream Sisters

Ed Boxall: Me and My Alien Friend

Bernadette Russell/White Rabbit

The Wishing Tree

What will you wish for?

You have three wishes, one for yourself, one for your community and one for the whole world... What will you wish for?

A fun, interactive and playful storytelling show written and performed by award winning author Bernadette Russell.

It is joyful, hopeful and adaptable and can be performed in any space. It contains opportunities to be characters in the stories, and to join in with sound effects, dancing and singing.

The show contains three interlocking stories: 'The Swaplings': about a boy who learns some valuable lessons from the wild creatures in his local park, 'Hope Bird' about a girl whose best friends are the birds, who eventually learns to fly, and 'The Wishing Tree' a story about how precious trees are, and how we can help each other make our dreams come true.

The show ends with the audience invited to choose their own Wishing Tree near their home. Every child is given a bark or paper star to remember the stories and encouraged to tell the story to someone else as soon as possible, thereby creating lots of new storytellers.

For more information visit: www.bernadetterussell.com



"Bernadette is a warm, funny and enchanting storyteller, making everyone feel welcome"

Ed Cobbold, Education & Outreach Manager, Royal Albert Hall













"Such a funny and hopeful story, exactly what we all need to hear right now"

Audience member at Rouel Community Orchard

“ Sam says:

Earth Day is in April, National Storytelling Week in February and whether you mark these events or not, The Wishing Tree is a wonderfully interactive show with themes linking to English and Science topics.

Key Information

Available Dates April - June and Sept - Dec 2025 	Target Audience 6+ 	Minimum Fees Variable 	Topic links Earth Day (22 Apr) Nat Storytelling Week (31 Jan-8 Feb) 
Show Duration 60 mins 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 30m Take Down: 30m 	Company Size 1 Performer 	Workshops No 
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor 	Space Required W1m x D1m x H2m 	Sound Requirements PA for entry and leaving music only 	Lighting Needs General wash if available 

Ed Boxall

Me and My Alien Friend

A joyful mix of poems, music, drawings and wellbeing workshop in one unforgettable event

Poet, storyteller and illustrator Ed Boxall brings his acclaimed book *Me and My Alien Friend* to life in a lively, interactive performance followed by a wellbeing workshop.

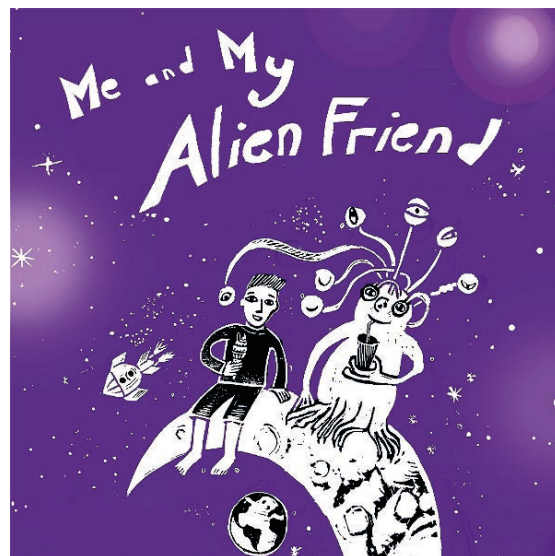
Children join in with poems, music, drawings and stories as they meet the Twilight Dragon, the Thing on a String, and even sit on the moon with their alien friend.

After the performance, Ed leads a playful, engaging workshop helping children explore five key areas of wellbeing: noticing, connecting, giving, learning and moving.

Children discover simple, fun ways to look after their own mental health such as mindful drawing, relationship mapping and gratitude games. All the activities link to poems from the performance.

Perfect for schools and libraries, the event combines creativity, laughter and empathy in flexible versions to suit different ages and settings.

For more information visit: www.edboxall.co.uk



"What a tremendous session- the children loved it- lots of good responses and their writing was joyful. I'd highly recommend Ed to libraries and schools"

Pie Corbett, author and writer of the 'Talk For Writing' approach to literacy in schools

"Beautifully, wonderfully, inspiringly tingle-making. An entirely enchanting and captivating experience that children and adults love"

Sara Pemberton audience member

“ Sam says:

Ed recently worked with Applause on library sessions for the Summer Reading Challenge. A highly experienced educator, he brings a truly engaging approach to learning

Key Information

Available Dates Generally available, but not Wednesdays and Thursdays.	Target Audience Perfect for all primary aged children, Year 7 and SEN children.	Minimum Fees Variable	Topic links World Poetry Day (21 Mar) World Wellbeing Week (24 Jun-30)
Show Duration 90 mins	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 20m Take Down: 20m	Company Size 1 Performer 1 Crew	Workshops No
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor	Space Required W1.5 metres x D1.5 metres x H2.5 metres	Sound Requirements NA	Lighting Needs NA

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Family Theatre Puppetry, Storytelling

Fran and Han Productions

Fishy Tales with the Seabream Sisters

Find some hidden treasure and make some surprising fishy friends

Join the Seabream Sisters on the high seas for a rip-roaring storytelling adventure!

Coral and Shelly might not catch many fish but they are experts at trawling the seas for stories, shanties and discarded treasures.

Meet the salty sea worm with an astonishing secret, the grumpy lighthouse keeper who learns to love the sea, and find out how to calm a storm that's shivering yer timbers.

Don't miss this voyage of discovery, packed with original stories, clowning, puppetry and songs. You might even catch a fish!













Shortlisted for The Brighton Fringe Family-Friendly Award in Association with Brighton Girls 2025



“ Sam says:

A seafaring duo that could help you cover many subjects from English, to music and even a little bit of science!

Key Information

Available Dates Jan- May 2026, Sept- Dec 2026, plus September - December 2025		Target Audience 3-10		Minimum Fees Variable		Topic links Nat Storytelling Wk (31 Jan-8 Feb) Brit Science Wk (6-15 Mar)	
Show Duration 50 mins		Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 1hr 15m Take Down: 30m		Company Size 2 Performers		Workshops Available on request	
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor		Space Required W5 metres x D4 metres x H3 metres		Sound Requirements None		Lighting Needs Basic wash of warm light if daylight isn't possible.	

Unsettled Theatre

The Untold Fable of Fritz

Imagine Narnia, Monty Python, and Tim Burton combined into a 50-minute play with puppets

This show, inspired by Philip Pullman's short story, Clockwork, is a rollercoaster of epic adventure into an enchanted world. Unsettled Theatre showcases their live performance of The Untold Fable of Fritz, using puppetry, live music and physical theatre.

White snow sweeps down from the mountain tops of the Neuchstein region, freezing over the valleys and the hearts of all the people that live within it. At the foot of the tallest peak live the inhabitants of Brutzenvien and their King. Through this everlasting stone-cold ice age, the King's son soon falls ill and the King makes a pledge to do all in his power to save his heir. But how far will he go?



"Performed with precision and imagination"

★★★★★ Broadway Baby | Richard Beck

"There are few greater pleasures in this world than sitting back and sensing that children are getting properly immersed in something special"













★★★★★ Get Your Coats On

“ Sam says:

Great for linking to English topics. This story is an adaptation of a book by acclaimed writer Philip Pullman. Blending puppetry and physical theatre, there is something for all students to discover.

For more information visit: www.unsettledtheatre.co.uk

Key Information

Available Dates Varied availability but flexible with notice 	Target Audience 5+ (some dark themes. Not made for early years) 	Minimum Fees Variable 	Topic links Nat Storytelling Week (31 Jan-8 Feb), World Book Day (5 Mar) 
Show Duration 50 mins 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 1hr 30m Take Down: 30m 	Company Size 3 Performers 1 Crew 	Workshops Available on request 
Stage Requirements Proscenium arch or end on 	Space Required W5m x D5m x H4m 	Sound Requirements PA system (will need to plug macbook in) 	Lighting Needs Blackout necessary for shadow puppetry. Lighting rig if available 

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Family Theatre Clowning, Comedy

Lyngo Theatre

Jack and the Beanstalk

Fee Fi Fo Fum! It's a giant of a show, we'd love you to come!

This classic fairytale gets the Lyngo treatment so expect lots of surprises, a gripping story and beautiful images as Jack sells his cow for five magic beans and finds himself above the clouds in a magical land of giants and gold laying hens.

A great storyteller and performance artist, lots of magical flying paraphernalia such as gold dust, fake snow, sprays of water and a very large shoe (all cleaned away at the end).

Winner of Best Show at the International Youth Arts Festival this show has travelled all over the world delighting children and adults alike.

Come and re-discover this fable and you'll understand why it has resonated through the centuries and is still a prime example of British rural folklore! This one man show is performed by CBeebies' Patrick Lynch where he comes into his own as a storyteller and magic maker.

Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATB2uy-sZ3s&t=5s>

For more information visit: www.lyngo.co.uk















"Lyngo Theatre brought magic, wonderment and such an immersive sense of theatre"

★★★★★ Munster Express

“ Sam says:

A classic tale told in the most magical of ways! Use this brilliant show to bring an unforgettable boost to your English lessons this year.

Key Information

Available Dates March 25 - December 26. 	Target Audience 3+ 	Minimum Fees Variable 	Topic links Nat Storytelling Week (31 Jan-8 Feb) World Book Day (5 Mar) 
Show Duration 50 mins 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 1hr Take Down: 45m 	Company Size 1 Performer 	Workshops Available on request 
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor 	Space Required W4 metres x D4 metres x H3 metres 	Sound Requirements Speakers if available 	Lighting Needs Will use venue equipment if available 

Scratchworks Theatre Company

The Mushroom Show

Exploring the fabulous world of fungi

Packed full of interactive games, playful music and lots of laughs.

Augustine Fogwoode might be the world's MOST enthusiastic mushroom enthusiast! She is on a quest to make sure everyone knows about the brilliance of fungi: their scientific superpowers and amazing abilities. But it's just her and her puppet friend Goldie. She might just need a few more fun-guys to make it happen.

Join the party and discover how fungi grow, connect and help the natural world, including us humans. The Mushroom Show is one person's mission to build a community... and maybe it'll become your mission too?

Award winning Scratchworks Theatre Company combines science, music and participatory activities to experience together.













For more information visit: www.scratchworkstheatre.com



“ Sam says:

Science but make it an adventure! Part show, part interactivity, this experience has it all.

Key Information

Available Dates Jan - June 2026, Sept-Oct 2026 	Target Audience 5+ 	Minimum Fee Variable 	Topic links Brit Science Week (6-15 Mar) Earth Day (22 Apr) 
Show Duration 70 mins + 10 min interval (required) 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 2hrs Take Down: 1hr 	Company Size 1 Performer 1 Crew 	Workshops Available on request 
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor 	Space Required W4 meters x D3 meters x H2 meters 	Sound Requirements None 	Lighting Needs May use basic rig if available 

Sabotage Theatre

After the Rain

A wild, muddy, musical puppet show with mischief and mycelium.

Let little ones' imaginations run wild when you join Ivy's intrepid adventures.

Ivy can't wait for it to stop raining so she can go out and jump in some puddles! But when she answers a call for help from a stranded worm, she sets off on a journey through the forest where she meets the weird and wonderful creatures that love to come out when it's wet.

Pursued by a council of crafty crows, she comes face to face with singing snails and she turns tiny to travel through a mycelium web. Along the way she learns the importance of home for everyone, from wiggly mini-beasts to our own families.

Sabotage Theatre's bold puppetry and original music - including a barbershop quartet of singing snails, honky tonk blues solo and scar punk band- are complimented by playful storytelling and gentle guided audience interaction to inspire curious minds and intrepid explorers.

Created and performed by Sabotage Theatre, on a tiny turning table stage.

For more information visit: <https://www.sabotagetheatre.com/>



"Funny, subversive, deeply philosophical and beautiful"

★★★★★ Fringe Review

Sam says:

Musical and magical. This eco-conscious tale is a visual and audible feast. Link this to the Curriculum to enhance learning around music, listening and science around the need for survival of animals and humans alike.

Key Information

Available Dates Weekends, school holidays, day times within school hours.	Target Audience 3-7 years olds	Minimum Fees Variable	Topic links Brit Science Week (6-15 Mar) Earth Day (22 Apr)
Show Duration 40 mins	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 1hr 30m Take Down: 45m	Company Size 2 Performers	Workshops No
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor	Space Required W3 metres x D3 metres x H2.5 metres	Sound Requirements Access to a plug point.	Lighting Needs Access to a plug point. A dark area (total blackout not necessary)

OftheJackel Splat!

A family friendly physical comedy about art

Splat is a physical comedy about art and creativity for ages 3-6. Set in an artist's studio the show follows two aspiring artists, one dedicated and serious, the other erratic and messy.

The two characters attempt to complete their masterpieces whilst antagonising each other in the process. They take a journey through the history of visual art, experiencing the techniques of the great masters and movements before eventually realising that to achieve anything they must embrace their opposites and work together.

The show explores themes of collaboration, play, dedication, spontaneity and letting go.

The show has no dialogue.

For more information visit: www.ofthejackel.co.uk



"A vibrant, hilarious, and surprisingly poignant piece of theatre"

★★★★★ Ovation Radio













"A perfect blend of clowning, physical comedy, and artistic mayhem"

★★★★★ Ovation Radio

“Sam says:

As there is no dialogue this is an inclusive show, especially for children whose first language isn't English, SEND or Deaf audiences. As well as being joyful and accessible, this show also links to art in the National Curriculum, teaching children about a range of artists and designers.

Key Information

Available Dates May - December 2026 	Target Audience 3+ (also suitable for younger children) 	Minimum Fees Variable 	Topic links Nat Storytelling Week (31 Jan-8 Feb) World Art Day (15 Apr) 
Show Duration 55 mins 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 2hrs Take Down: 1hr 	Company Size 2 Performers 1 Crew 	Workshops Available on request 
Stage Requirements Proscenium arch or end on 	Space Required W5m x D4m x H2.5m 	Sound Requirements N/A 	Lighting Needs Daylight/house lighting 

Scarlet Oak Theatre

The Zoo That Comes To You

Join the conversation about animal conservation!

Featuring beautiful puppetry, live music and unforgettable characters.

The show follows two animal enthusiasts as they share their love of and concern for animals with the world. They take in animals that need respite, care or a temporary home and have, accidentally, ended up with a whole sanctuary, but no visitors! So everybody - animals and humans alike - have decided it is time to get out, see the world, and bring the zoo, to you.

Come and meet this eclectic group of charming and cheeky animals, as they discuss their life experiences and the challenges they face in a rapidly changing world. They have lots to say and want to inspire people of all ages to take action, because they know small actions can make a big difference in the world.

For more information visit: <https://www.scarletoaktheatre.com/>














"A perfect balance of entertainment, education and beautiful design, the performance pulls you in and helps bring to life the issue of wildlife conservation."

Director of The Exeter Fringe 2021

“ Sam says:

This show is full of incredible puppetry, song and eco messaging. An accompanying workshop can be booked alongside this show for just £75!

Key Information

Available Dates Good availability currently 	Target Audience All ages 	Minimum Fees Variable 	Topic links Earth Day (22 Apr) World Conservation Day (28 July) 
Show Duration 60 mins 	Set Up Times / Take Down Times Set Up: 2hrs 30m Take Down: 1hr 30m 	Company Size 2 Performers 	Workshops Available on request 
Stage Requirements Can perform on floor 	Space Required W6 meters x D6 meters x H2.5 meters 	Sound Requirements Socket near stage if available 	Lighting Needs Not required but preferable 