

The Royal Ballet and Opera



The Royal Ballet and Opera is the UK's home of world-class opera and ballet. We are a cultural powerhouse, bringing together two world-class performing companies in one of the UK's leading arts institutions, supported by a cast of more than 3,000 employees, including technical staff, creatives, and freelancers.

Based primarily at the Royal Opera House in the heart of London's Covent Garden, with production and logistics sites in Thurrock and Aberdare, our work is enjoyed by audiences in our two theatres and globally through our streaming platform, cinema Season and company tours. **Our work in schools and communities up and down the country is driven by our curriculum linked programmes, specially designed to inspire creativity, widen access to the arts and diversify the future of opera and ballet.** These sit alongside industry-leading talent development projects, regional partnerships, our Young RBO scheme, and a raft of daytime events, family activities, tours, exhibitions, and concerts in our Covent Garden home. We are committed to reducing our impact on the environment and aim to achieve net zero emissions by 2035.



Cultural Champions

**ROYAL
BALLET &
OPERA**

*Enhance
your*
**Leadership
Skills**

Cultural Champions 2025

**ROYAL
BALLET &
OPERA**

*Peer
to Peer*
Networking

Cultural Champions 2025

**ROYAL
BALLET &
OPERA**

*Inspire
Change*
**Through
Creativity**

Cultural Champions 2025

What is Cultural Champions?

- FREE Personal professional development for Middle Leaders or 'Agents of Change' wanting to take the next steps in their careers.
- An opportunity to empower enthusiastic members of staff who want to impact whole school change.
- The enquiry-based programme focuses on the individual as a leader (professional development) and how they can advocate for arts & culture within their school setting.
- The programme will develop the tools and insight into using arts and culture for positive impact within the unique needs/aims of your school setting.



Cultural Champions Programme

How it Works

FOCUSING ON YOUR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Champions will receive 6 modules across the year, both in person and online, covering these areas:

1. **Developing an understanding of a creative school** (in-person)
2. **Your Leadership** (in-person)
3. **Your Connections** (online, twilight)
4. **Exploring Collaboration** (in-person, twilight)
5. **Planning for Impact** (online, twilight)
6. **What's Next?** (in-person, twilight)

CREATE PROGRAMMES - 'TEST AND APPLY' opportunities

Enable Cultural Champions to use their leadership skills to support creative delivery in their setting





What does the Programme entail?

- 14.5 hours of FREE Leadership Training delivered in 6 modules by a specialist Programme Leader [A mix of in person and online, during school time and twilight sessions]
- Access to the RBO online portal to share good practice, files and notices
- Support with measuring impact and evaluating success, which could support a setting's Artsmark journey
- Peer learning and networking in real time
- Advice on growing in-school support from senior leadership, heads and governors
- Free participation in at least two RBO creative learning projects (in Singing, Dance or Design)
- An opportunity to apply to attend a performance at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden with fellow Champions.

The Impact of Cultural Champions



Our evaluation demonstrates that the Cultural Champions Programme supports participants to progress in:

- growing their understanding of creative project planning in the context of school improvement
- advocating for the arts, self-reflection, and working collaboratively
- understanding impact measurement and being able to use evidence to advocate for the arts
- Becoming more strategic in their thinking, and less delivery focussed

Our 23/24 evaluation showed that there was a **70% increase in the number of Cultural Champions who saw themselves as a Cultural Leader in their setting by the end of the programme.** There was also a **76% increase in the Cultural Champions confidence level in leading on creative and cultural initiatives across the school.**

Evaluation also showed that the programme enabled Cultural Champions to think more broadly and deeply about cultural education, in terms of the need for it to be embedded, and to introduce children to different experiences.

'It has helped me to find other ways to lead, fresh ideas for getting staff on board and it has been a great sounding board... More staff are seeing the value in the Arts and the potential opportunities for children' (22/23 Cultural Champion)

'Our Cultural Champion has grown in confidence to deliver initiatives and to be proactive when supporting wider staff. They now have a clear vision for their area of school, further developing our creative approach.' (23/24 SLT Link Member)

Cultural Champions

Community Symposium 2026

Save the date!

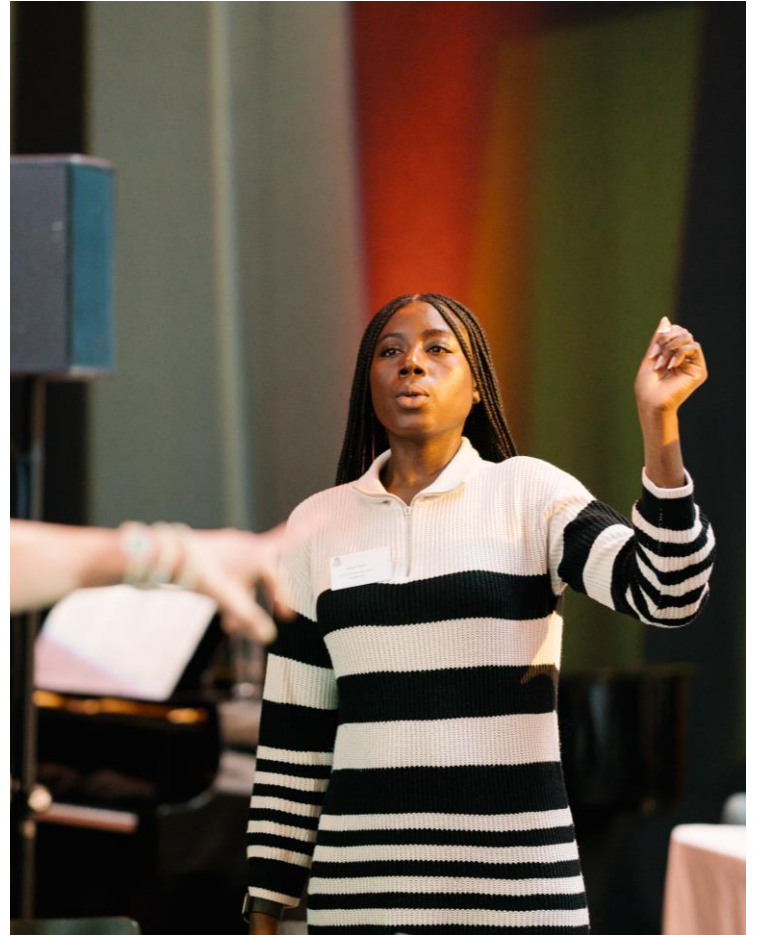
Tuesday 27th January 2026











Create & Programmes

During the year, you will deliver a Creative and Cultural initiative in your school to make something happen in relation to **the schools' own priorities**. If you want, you can use our core programmes within your setting as a springboard for your further development.

RBO Schools – Primary



CPD – Classroom Resources – Live Lessons – Authentic Artform Connections

Create & Dance (KS1&2) An inclusive approach to leading dance and storytelling that helps pupils develop creative collaboration, physical learning, spatial awareness and general health and well-being.

Create & Sing (KS1&KS2) An accessible approach that combines singing and drama to build pupils' self-expression, creative collaboration, performance confidence, voice, movement, and memory skills.

Create & Design (KS1&KS2) A hands-on design skills programme that supports pupils' creative problem-solving, develops empathy, builds careers understanding, and connections between STEM and the arts.

Create Day (KS2) 8 July, 2025. In collaboration with UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools award. A day of song, dance and design activity to celebrate children's creativity, resulting in a live-streamed mass performance by schools across the nation, on the theme of hope inspired by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. [Register on the website.](#)

Schools Matinees Visit the Royal Opera House to experience an opera and ballet performance. £7.50 tickets and travel grants available. [Apply for tickets on the website from Easter for the following academic year.](#)

RBO Schools – Secondary



Online CPD - Classroom Resources – Authentic Artform Connections

Create & Dance (KS3, KS4 and BTech) An inclusive approach to leading dance and storytelling that helps students develop artform knowledge, creative collaboration, physical learning, spatial awareness and general health and well-being.

Step into Opera: Digital Songbook (KS3,4,5) Introduce some of the most famous moments in opera through accessible resources which explore context, culture, and performance. *Suitable for subject specialists.*

Create & Design (KS3) 5 lesson classroom resources to explore the magic behind the scenes and the structures and mechanisms used backstage. Supports pupils' creative problem-solving as they work to a real-world design brief, builds careers understanding, and connections between STEM and the arts. *Online CPD available.*

Design Challenge (KS4&5, FE) A hands-on design skills programme with pathways in costume, set design, hair, wigs & makeup, and marketing. Students are challenged to stretch their ideation and problem solving skills. Optional entry into national awards, culminating in a winners' exhibition at ROH. *Online CPD available.*

Schools Matinees Visit the Royal Opera House to experience an opera and ballet performance. £7.50 tickets and travel grants available. [Apply for tickets on the website from Easter for the following academic year.](#)

Inspire creativity in your classrooms through Singing, Dance and Design

All programmes are **FREE** and available nationwide

Certified CPD training, high quality resources and (for Primary) termly digital live lessons

- Build creative confidence for teachers and children
- Develop cultural capital with accessible approaches to opera, ballet and stage design
- Connect to world class artists for creative career insights and real-world learning
- Inclusive and accessible



Free

- 1. Award Winning CPD**
- 2. Curriculum-Led Resources**
- 3. Live Lessons**

Throughout 2024-25 Academic Year

Create & Dance



Inspire creativity through dance with FREE award-winning teacher CPD, curriculum-based resources and live lessons for primary and secondary students.

About Create & Dance:

- FREE award-winning teacher training and resources.
- Developed in collaboration with teachers to meet their needs and those of their students.
- Classroom-based lesson plans and digital activities, with strong PE and cross-curricular links, particularly literacy.
- Aims to develop children's understanding of dance and to unlock their imagination and creativity.
- An inclusive approach to leading dance and storytelling that helps pupils develop creative collaboration, physical learning, spatial awareness and general health and well-being.
- Teachers do not need any previous knowledge of ballet or dance in order to take part.

How to get involved:

- [Teacher CPD](#) – award winning CPD for primary and secondary teachers.
- [Live Lessons](#) – bringing ballet LIVE into your classroom every term.
- [Classroom resources](#) – schemes of work, lesson plans, music and more for KS1, KS2 and KS3. Our resources are inclusive in supporting SEND students.
- [Approaches to teaching](#) - explore the Create & Dance pedagogy.

Our Resources:

KS1

- [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)
- [The Nutcracker](#)

KS2

- [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)
- [The Nutcracker](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet](#)

KS3

- [Romeo and Juliet](#)



Create & Sing



Inspire creativity through music and drama with FREE award-winning teacher CPD curriculum-based resources and live lessons for primary students.

About Create & Sing:

- FREE award-winning teacher training and resources.
- Developed in collaboration with teachers to meet their needs and those of their students.
- Classroom-based lesson plans and digital activities, with strong Music and cross-curricular links.
- Enables students and teachers to gain a better understanding of singing and opera for pupils, unlocking their imagination and creativity.
- Teachers do not need any previous knowledge of opera in order to take part.

How to get involved:

- [Teacher CPD](#) - award winning CPD for primary teachers.
- [Live Lessons](#) - bringing opera LIVE into your classroom every term.
- [Classroom resources](#) - schemes of work, lesson plans, music and more for KS1 and KS2. Our resources are inclusive in supporting SEND students.
- [Approaches to teaching](#) - explore the Create & Sing pedagogy.

Our Resources:

KS1

- [The Magic Flute](#)

KS2

- [The Magic Flute](#)
- [Carmen](#)
- [Hansel and Gretel](#)

KS3

- [Step into Opera: Digital Sound book](#)



Create & Design

Inspire creativity through design with FREE award-winning teacher CPD, curriculum-based resources and live lessons for primary and secondary students.

About Create & Design:

- FREE award-winning teacher training and resources.
- Developed in collaboration with teachers to meet their needs and those of their students.
- Classroom-based lesson plans and digital activities, with strong Design & Technology, Art & Design and cross-curricular links.
- Explores the authentic process used by designers to respond to a set design brief set by The Royal Ballet and Opera.
- At Key Stage 4-5 Create & Design offers a competitive [Design Challenge](#).
- Teachers do not need any previous knowledge of ballet, opera or design in order to take part.

How to get involved:

- [Teacher CPD](#) - award winning CPD for primary and secondary teachers.
- [Live Lessons](#) - bringing ballet and opera LIVE into your classroom every term.
- [Classroom resources](#) - schemes of work, lesson plans, music and more for KS1, KS2 and KS3. Our resources are inclusive in supporting SEND students.
- [Approaches to teaching](#) - explore the Create & Design pedagogy.



Our Resources:

KS1

- [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)

KS2

- [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)
- [The Magic Flute](#)

KS3

- [The Nutcracker](#)

KS4/5

- [Design Challenge](#)



Create Day

Save the date!

8th July 2025

World class Ballet & Opera LIVE in your classroom



Join Royal Ballet & Opera artists and schools nationwide for a creative day of singing, dance and design celebrating the UN Convention on the Rights of Children.

WHAT IS IT?

A curriculum-aligned mass-participation day of singing, dancing and design.

WHO'S IT FOR?

KS2 Classrooms across the nation.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

- **Teacher Support**
Watch short webinars guiding you through how to prepare for the big day.
- **Six Prep Lessons**
Lead your students through six hours of prep lessons (2 Dance, 2 Singing, 2 Design) in summer term.
- **Create Day 2025**
Join thousands of children and Royal Ballet & Opera artists in singing, dance and design!





ROYAL BALLET & OPERA SCHOOLS



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