

Arts Award Explore Qualification Specification

We are delighted to introduce the Trinity College London specification for Arts Award Explore.

Purpose of this specification

This specification document provides key information about the structure, content and administration of the Trinity Entry Level Award in the Arts (Entry 3), known as Arts Award Explore.

Introduction

Why choose Arts Award?

The Arts Award qualifications are designed to inspire learners up to the age of 25 to grow their arts and leadership talents. Most of all, they aim to support and encourage learners of all levels and abilities and from all backgrounds and cultures to engage and participate in the arts. From the initial Arts Award Discover level, all the way through to Gold Arts Award, these qualifications offer a variety of ways to approach creative and wider skills development, that can be tailored to the centre, adviser and learners.

Through Arts Award, learners will achieve a national qualification that will build confidence through nurturing their individual interests, while also equipping them with life skills that will support their education and future employment.

To achieve their Arts Award, learners take on challenges in an art form, participate in arts activities, experience arts events, get inspired by artists and share their arts skills with others. They create a portfolio to keep a record of their creative work and progress along the way, and they are supported by an adult, who has trained as an Arts Award adviser and acts as an assessor, facilitator and mentor.

Arts Award recognises all art forms ranging from fashion to poetry, rapping to dance, sculpture to film and arts administration to backstage roles, providing assessment opportunities for many different learners and offering freedom of choice within the framework. This enables them to play to their strengths and express their creative identity through art form options and portfolio presentation. Arts Award is designed as a flexible, personalised, learning programme in which those taking part have choice and control.

Arts Award Supporters, advisers and alumni have impressive stories to tell about these qualifications and our community is growing every year. Read their inspiring success stories at artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub and artsawardvoice.com

Arts Award can be delivered in the UK only (including Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).

Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England, working with 10 regional bridge organisations. Bridge organisations are funded by Arts Council England with the remit of connecting the arts and cultural sector with the education sector, so that children and young people can have access to great arts and cultural opportunities. Visit artsaward.org.uk/regions

We hope you enjoy exploring all the opportunities these Arts Award qualifications offer and we wish you every success.

About Trinity College London

Trinity College London is an international awarding organisation with a rich heritage of academic rigour and a positive, supportive approach to assessment. With over 140 years' experience, we offer recognised and respected qualifications across a unique spectrum of communicative and performance skills. From music, drama and arts activities to English language, each year over 700,000 candidates in over 60 countries take a Trinity assessment and our international network is growing fast.

Trinity offers more than just specifications and assessments. Working closely with partners across education and industry, we aim to devise authentic, innovative approaches to assessment and associated support resources specifically designed to help teachers teach and learners to progress. We believe it is important for learners to make their own choices and for assessments to reflect their interests. This motivates learners and makes our assessments relevant and enjoyable.

For more information about our full range of qualifications, visit trinitycollege.com

Qualification information

Aims of the qualification

Arts Award Explore aims to enable learners to develop a basic understanding of a range of art forms, artists and arts organisations, to commit to taking part in arts activities and to demonstrate basic communication skills. Learners do this by taking part in different arts activities and recording what inspires them, experiencing the work of artists and arts organisations, creating art work and presenting their exploration to others. They create a personal arts log (portfolio) to record their experiences in a format of their choice.

Qualification details

All Arts Award qualifications are assigned a total qualification time (TQT). Total qualification time is an estimate of the average time a learner spends with an adviser or adult to support them (guided learning hours) added to the average time spent learning independently. It is recognised that the amount of time needed to complete a qualification will depend on the level of experience of each individual or group. For this reason, the assigned TQT should be used as guidance only.

Examples of different delivery approaches can be found at artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub

Qualification title	Title on regulator registers	Level on the RQF**	Guided learning hours	Independent learning hours	Total qualification time (TQT)	Qualification number
Arts Award Discover	N/A*	N/A*	–	–	20 hours (recommended)	N/A*
Arts Award Explore	Entry Level Award in the Arts (Entry 3)	Entry 3	25	10	35	600/3894/9
Bronze Arts Award	Level 1 Award in the Arts	Level 1	40	20	60	501/0081/6
Silver Arts Award	Level 2 Award in the Arts	Level 2	60	35	95	500/9914/0
Gold Arts Award	Level 3 Certificate in the Arts	Level 3	90	60	150	500/9666/7

Arts Award qualifications are regulated by **Ofqual** (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) in England, **CCEA Regulation** in Northern Ireland and by **Qualifications Wales**. The awarding organisation is Trinity College London.

Prerequisites

Trinity's Arts Award Discover and Arts Award Explore qualifications are open to learners up to the age of 25, with Bronze, Silver and Gold Arts Award open to learners from age 11 up to 25.

There are no formal prerequisite qualifications and there is no requirement to have passed a particular level to progress to the next. However, the levels represent a system of progression:

Arts Award Discover is designed for ages 5-9 (particularly for Key Stage 1 and lower Key Stage 2) but is open to anyone aged up to 25.	Arts Award Explore is designed for ages 7-11 (particularly for upper Key Stage 2) but is open to anyone aged up to 25.	Bronze Arts Award is designed for ages 11-14 but is open to anyone aged from 11 up to 25. This qualification is working at the same standard as GCSE grades D-G/3-1.	Silver Arts Award is designed for ages 14-16 but is open to anyone aged from 11 up to 25. This qualification is working at the same standard as GCSE grades A*-C/9-4.	Gold Arts Award is designed for ages 16 plus but is open to anyone aged from 11 up to 25. This qualification is working at the same standard as an A level.
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Further qualification information can be found at artsaward.org.uk/qualification

Progression opportunities

After Arts Award Explore, learners may wish to progress onto Bronze, Silver or Gold Arts Award.

Trinity also offers qualifications for learners wanting to specialise in developing skills in drama, communication skills, musical theatre and classical, jazz and rock and pop performance.

Funding

Arts Award Explore, and Bronze, Silver and Gold Arts Award levels may form part of a 16-19 study programme and have Funded Learning Aims. Please check for specific funding available for each level on the [Learning Aim Reference Service \(LARS\)](#).

Arts Award delivery

Arts Award centres

Learners take part in the award at Arts Award centres, which may be arts organisations, schools, museums, youth clubs, community centres or any other setting that can support learners to take part in the arts. In order to offer Arts Award, centres must register with Trinity and have at least one trained adviser at the appropriate level. Parts of the award can be undertaken away from the centre. Activities may be directly supported and delivered by the trained adviser but may also be accessed independently by the learner with support from others.

Arts Award advisers

Advisers must have successfully completed a training course relevant to the level they wish to run and be engaged by a centre. They can then support learners to work towards their award and act as mentors and/or facilitators. Advisers enable learners to access the required activities and support them to organise their evidence of participation in their arts logs. Arts Award advisers are also the primary assessors of the learners' work and are responsible for assessing it using the framework and assessment criteria in the Arts Award manual (known as the Toolkit). Trinity moderates the adviser's assessment through a sampling process.

For information about costs for training, certification and moderation, visit artsaward.org.uk/costs

Achieving an Arts Award Explore

Qualification requirements

Learners can work at their own pace for this qualification and they record their progress in an arts log. This provides the evidence for the adviser to assess and for the moderator to validate. Arts logs can be created in any format. Learners can use written work, non-written media such as digital, online portfolio or appropriate social platforms to record work for their evidence.

To pass Arts Award Explore, learners are required to create an individual arts log which demonstrates how they meet the following requirements:

- ▶ their active participation in a range of arts activities, providing a personal response about what has inspired them about taking part
- ▶ their experience of a range of arts organisations, artists and their work
- ▶ their creativity and arts skills through making art work
- ▶ identification of what they have enjoyed and/or achieved, and their presentation of this to others

Further information is contained in the Arts Award Discover & Explore Adviser Toolkit, provided when attending Arts Award adviser training. Visit artsaward.org.uk/training

Arts Award section	What learners should demonstrate through their evidence	Evidence required
Part A: inspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ participation in at least two arts activities▶ an understanding of how the activities inspired them	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ a record of taking part in more than one arts activity▶ identification of what inspired them about taking part
Part B: explore	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ participation in exploration of the work of at least one artist▶ participation in exploration of the work of at least one arts organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ a record of what they found out about the work of artists▶ a record of what they found out about the work of arts organisations
Part C: create	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ participation in an arts activity, leading to the creation of art work▶ application of arts skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ a record of the process of creating their art work▶ a record of their final art work
Part D: present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ identification of enjoyment and/or achievements▶ communication to others through the chosen medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ identification of what has been enjoyed and/or achieved through completing the award▶ a record of what was presented and how it was shared

Assessment

Arts Award Explore assesses learners at Entry Level (Entry 3) on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in the following areas:

- ▶ art form knowledge and understanding
- ▶ creativity
- ▶ communication

Each arts log is internally assessed by the trained adviser, in line with the requirements about what learners should demonstrate through their evidence, the specific evidence requirements and the assessment criteria. Arts Award qualifications are not allocated different grades or levels, so each arts log will be assessed as either a pass or a below pass.

Arts Award Explore is externally moderated. This means the adviser's assessment is validated by a moderator from Trinity, by looking in detail at a sample of arts logs. After the moderation, results are provided, along with a written summary of the moderation with suggestions for future delivery. It is the adviser's responsibility to let the learners know their results.

Arts Award Explore assessment criteria

Advisers look at the evidence in the arts logs as a whole in order to find one notable example of each of the assessment criteria listed below.

Art form knowledge and understanding

Pass: a basic understanding of a range of art forms, artists and arts organisations

Creativity

Pass: show commitment in arts activities

Communication

Pass: a basic understanding of communication

Certificates

Arts Award Explore certificates are sent within four weeks of the moderation date. For Arts Award Explore postal moderations, certificates are sent within six weeks from the approved sample confirmation date. Both these timescales are subject to payment being received. There is a fee for replacement certificates.

Complaints, result reviews and appeals

Complaints

If an adviser, centre or learner is dissatisfied with their Arts Award training or the moderation process, they can contact Trinity to complain. Complaints should be made in writing via the artsaward.org.uk/contact page on the Arts Award website. The correspondence will be acknowledged within three working days and Trinity will normally respond within 10 working days. If the complaint involves questioning the result awarded, please use the process below.

Result reviews and appeals

General enquiries about results or support with the delivery of Arts Award in a centre can be made via artsawardenquiries@trinitycollege.co.uk. Anyone wishing to make a formal enquiry about the result of a moderation, should complete the [enquiries about results form](#).

Information about the process for requesting a result review or appeal can be found at trinitycollege.com/appeals. Trinity also delivers a range of qualifications in music, drama, dance and English language, so for clarity, advisers should specifically read the 'clerical check' and 're-mark' information and provide details in the form about which service is required.

Reasonable adjustments

Trinity is committed to creating an inclusive environment where learners with special needs are able to demonstrate their skills and feel welcomed. We aim to make our qualifications accessible to all. We treat each learner individually when considering how we can achieve this aim, recognising that requirements vary.

Reasonable adjustments for Arts Award include:

- ▶ accessible formats of materials
- ▶ requests for additional time at moderation for the adviser to explain specific communication methods used
- ▶ requests for exceptions when learners are unable to meet the moderator

For further information about reasonable adjustments, visit artsaward.org.uk/accessibility

Please refer to the Arts Award website to ensure you are using the latest version of this document.