



May  
2024

# Unforgettable experiences at your school

**World class music, dance and theatre curated especially for Leicester and Leicestershire schools.**

No need to book costly travel, we are coming to you!

**Tuesday 20 to Friday 24 May 2024**

We're thrilled to announce the At Your School lineup for the 21st Spark Festival! This selection of exceptional shows is tailored for teachers and students, each carefully curated to celebrate diversity and promote unity.

Prepare to be transported by world-class South Asian music and Jazz melodies, skilfully fused with a 21st-century twist. Witness a captivating piece of physical theatre that offers children a unique insight into the world of those in care, fostering empathy and understanding. And don't miss an inventive performance which contends with the urgent climate crisis. Join us and embrace the power of the arts in bridging gaps and celebrating unity.

By booking The Spark, you get the best schools performance programme in the UK.

Your whole school will talk about for years to come, and your pupils will remember it forever!

## Enhanced Learning Packs

We provide free learning resource packs to enhance your classroom learning and support cross-curricular links to ensure you get the most out of each performance.

**Get in touch** to book your Spark At Your School performance and find out more about the opportunities available.



Email [hazel@thesparkarts.co.uk](mailto:hazel@thesparkarts.co.uk)  
Call 0116 261 6893  
[thesparkarts.co.uk/schools](https://thesparkarts.co.uk/schools)



Book before  
19 January  
2024 for  
**15% early bird  
discount.**

**First 5  
schools  
to book get  
20% discount**  
With shows from  
£2.90 a child

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**The offer from The Spark Festival is always exceptional. The children were thrilled and enthralled with the performance. They were so engaged.**

Glebelands Primary School



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**





Arun Ghosh presents

## Indo-Jazz

Music **KS1** **KS2** **KS3** **SEND**

### A jazz gig that blends South Asian rhythms with a modern twist.

#### About the Show

Transport your students on a musical journey that transcends borders! Indo-Jazz blends the mesmerizing rhythms of South Asian music with the soulful notes of Jazz, infused with a modern 21st-century twist. Through live performances children will discover the universal language of music while celebrating the beauty of cultural diversity.

Award winning clarinettist, composer and music educator Arun Ghosh and his band offer a wonderful opportunity to see how Arun draws many cultural influences together to create his music. It's a chance for students to get up close to the band's instruments and experience their sounds in ways you've never heard before.

”

Arun Ghosh and Indo-jazz was amazing! The children were really into the music, clapping and dancing along. They used words such as 'outstanding' 'amazing' and 'wonderful'... just a few of the many compliments that were given at the end.

Medway Primary School

#### The Learning Opportunity

This is a unique opportunity for pupils to experience live music - a joyful learning experience to enjoy firsthand a combination of instruments demonstrating beat, rhythm, and pitch. With a wide repertoire to broaden musical horizons, link this music to culture and traditions, and encourage children to respond visually by making marks and expressing themselves personally.

**Key themes/values:** Beat, rhythm, listening, collaboration, languages

**Available:** Tue 21 May to Fri 24 May 2024  
Morning or afternoon performances

**Duration:** 50 Minutes

**Capacity:** 180

**Performance space:** 5m (width) X 5m (depth)

**Set Up:** 1 hour

**Price:**

2 shows in 1 day: £1,300 (approx. £3.60 per child)

1 show, am or pm: £865 (approx. £4.80 per child)

15% discount for bookings made before Friday  
19 January 2024





Mind The Gap presents

# Birdie

Dance Theatre

KS1

SEND

## A captivating theatre production about climate action and standing up for what is right.

### About the Show

Birdie is a captivating show featuring three professional actors with learning disabilities, blending intricate choreography & original music to tell a powerful story about climate change.

Homie, the main character, travels in a mesmerising upcycled mobile home. They are determined to make a difference in the face of the daunting climate crisis.

Homie meets Birdie, a new friend struggling to navigate a world filled with plastics and pollution. With Homie's help they embark on a journey towards freedom and hope, inspiring positive action.

”

**The company that's raised the bar for theatre with learning-disabled artists.**

Lyn Gardner, The Stage, on Mind The Gap

### The Learning Opportunity

Birdie explores climate change awareness, empowerment, inclusivity, friendship, and environmental responsibility in line with the PSHE and citizenship curriculum. It promotes collaboration, instils hope, and encourages students to champion a sustainable world. With a focus on inclusivity, 'Birdie' engages students and fosters vital discussions about our collective responsibility to the planet.

#### Key themes/values:

Environmental responsibility, empowerment, inclusion, hope and optimism.

**Available:** Wed 22 May to Fri 24 May 2024  
Morning or afternoon performances

**Duration:** 50 Minutes

**Capacity:** 120

**Performance space:**  
5m (width) X 5m (depth) X 2.5m Height

**Set Up:** 1 hour

#### Price:

2 shows in 1 day: £1,170 (approx. £4.80 per child)  
1 show, am or pm: £700 (approx. £5.83 per child)  
15% discount for bookings made before Friday  
19 January 2024



Tangled Feet and Rowan Tree present

# Belongings

Theatre **KS2**

**A compelling physical theatre performance developed with young people in care, exploring everyone's need to belong**

## About the Show

We are all trying to work out our story. Who are we? How are we shaped? Where do we fit in?

Cleo arrives into a new home, unsure of what the future holds. She meets the playful Bertie, who brings her out of her shell, and Leila, who she has more in common with than she first thought.

Nominated for two Off West End Awards, *Belongings* is a show that shines a light on children in the care system or those growing up in insecure housing and home lives.



**Highlights the importance of play as a positive force: a means of self expression, for learning, companionship, challenge and teamwork.**

Everything Theatre

**Wow! I cannot express what an impact *Belongings* had for the children we have in care. It has enabled them to communicate with their teachers and friends about their home situations more openly.**

Laura Moore, Newton Leys Primary

## The Learning Opportunity

This powerful show provides a unique opportunity for students to develop empathy and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by young people in care. A fantastic tool to facilitate open discussions *Belongings* supports PSHE and citizenship work in school. This story explores the importance of resilience, compassion, and celebrates difference.

### Key themes/values:

Belonging, community, wellbeing, mental health, PSHE and inclusivity.

**Available:** Wed 22 to Fri 24 May 2024

Whole day – 2 performances

**Duration:** 55 Minutes

**Capacity:** 120

**Performance space:**

7m (width) X 6m (depth) X 3.5m (height)

**Set Up:** 2 hours

**Price:**

2 shows in 1 day: £1,170 (approx. £4.80 per child)

1 show, am or pm: £700 (approx. £5.83 per child)

15% discount for bookings made before Friday 19 January 2024





## Access – for artists & audiences

**We want everyone to enjoy the performances and will work with you to make this happen.**

### Access for school audiences – children & teachers

At all of our performances children should feel safe to react, move around and come and go as they need to. We can arrange for adaptations to be made to the performance if required, such as lower sound levels or for small groups to see / feel the set and meet the company before the show. You may wish to bring ear defenders for children who experience sound sensitivity. Some of our programme is non-verbal or has very little spoken word, meaning it can be accessed easily by Deaf audiences and where English is not the first language. BSL and /or captions can be arranged for performances when required.

### Access for artists

We will provide any specific access requirements of the company at the point of booking. Please consider the access of your space for any of our artists or staff teams. This might include physical access such as ramps and lifts, plus accessible toilets, location of staff room, fire exits etc, and be aware that some artists may attend with a personal assistant. We may have visitors or delegates in addition to this, so your cooperation and openness about your space enables us to commit to being an accessible festival for all.





## Artsmark Partner

We are proud to be supporting schools and education settings on their Artsmark journey, inspiring children and young people to create, experience, and participate in great arts and culture. We offer partnership working to education settings who are working towards, or currently hold an Artsmark Award, through a range of creative and cultural opportunities.



Artsmark  
**Partner**

Supporting cultural education, endorsed by Arts Council England

## Arts Award Supporter

Working with us is an easy way for schools to kick start their engagement with the two Arts Award qualifications for beginners. Discover and Explore programmes are fun, flexible and self-assessed by your school's Arts Award Adviser, or by one of The Spark's Advisers. The Festival offers a fantastic opportunity for some children to take the first steps with Discover, by seeing a Spark show in their school and writing about it.



the  
**spark**  
arts for children



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**phf** Paul Hamlyn  
Foundation

This programme is subsidised by The Spark Arts for Children, giving you a high quality and professional production at an affordable price. Without this subsidy one performance would cost approximately £1,500, and two performances in one day would cost approximately £2,000.



**Don't delay!** Book your Spark Festival 2024 performance and find out more about the opportunities available.  
**Email** [hazel@thesparkarts.co.uk](mailto:hazel@thesparkarts.co.uk) **call** 0116 261 6893