



 **coram**
SHAKESPEARE
SCHOOLS **FESTIVAL**

25 YEARS

400,000+ PUPILS

1,500+ TEACHERS

200+ THEATRES

1 FESTIVAL

scoram
SHAKESPEARE
SCHOOLS FESTIVAL



WHY IS THIS WORK NEEDED?



VALUING CREATIVITY AT SCHOOL

Children and young people deserve access to the arts and opportunity to express themselves creatively no matter their background.

BUILDING ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS

A curriculum focused on knowledge has failed to prepare young people for higher education or the world of work.



BOOSTING PUPIL WELLBEING

The shadow cast by the Covid-19 pandemic looms large in UK Schools; self-reported levels of wellbeing for children are at all-time low.

CLOSING THE ATTAINMENT GAP

For many pupils in the UK, a disadvantaged start in life means a cycle of low academic achievement, ambition and aspiration.

THE FESTIVAL PROCESS



SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The world's largest youth drama project

Each year 400 schools and 10,000 pupils perform an abridged Shakespeare production on a professional theatre stage across the UK, from Swansea to Sunderland, Edinburgh to Eastbourne.

Primary, Secondary and SEND Schools are given the chance to shine in front of their local community, building confidence and self-esteem, supporting wellbeing and boosting key skills.

Months of preparation culminate in exhilarating performance evenings in professional theatres nationwide; a night which can give confidence and self-esteem to last a lifetime.



**SHAKESPEARE
NORTH
PLAYHOUSE**



HOW THE FESTIVAL WORKS IN 4 STEPS

1. INSPIRE TEACHERS TO BE DIRECTORS

through our Teacher-Director CPD workshops led by professional actors, theatre practitioners and directors

2. SUPPORT CREATIVITY AT SCHOOL

with award-winning curriculum resources, masterclasses, teaching films and dedicated support from our team of Programmes Coordinators

3. TAKE THE REHEARSAL ROOM TO THE CLASSROOM

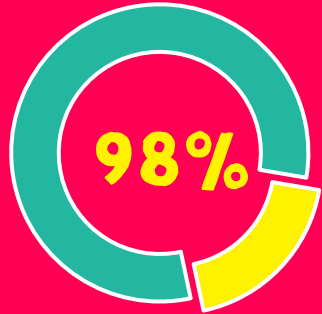
by delivering a workshop to pupils on their play, sharing their expertise as professional theatre-makers

4. PERFORM IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

on a professional stage alongside peers from nearby schools and in front of a diverse audience of family, friends and supporters



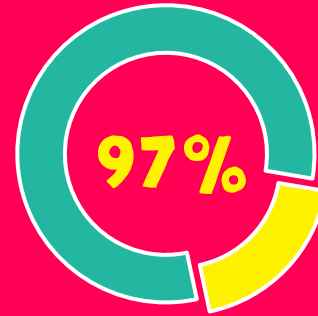
THE FESTIVAL'S IMPACT



of teachers told us their students' **teamwork** improved

4 IN 5 

teachers said their students' **academic attainment** had improved through the process



of teachers felt their students were **more ambitious**, having taken part in the Theatre Festival

**Stats and case study from the forthcoming 2023-24 Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation Impact Report*



CHARLOTTE'S STORY

“One of our pupils struggles with school and has been a historic school refuser. She often truants lessons and does not have the best reputation around the school.

For the headteacher to be able to see her performing Shakespeare's language and being on stage in front of the audience on her own was emotional for all.

To see her in a different, positive light was inspirational.”

Rhian, Teacher, Secondary School, South Wales



WHO WE ENGAGE



OUR STUDENTS

10,390 

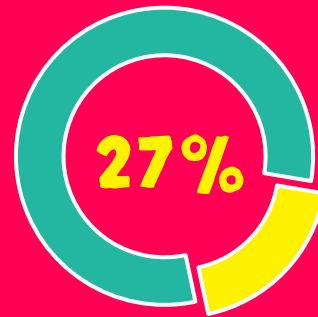
children and young people
took part in our 2023-24
Festival programmes

1 IN 3 

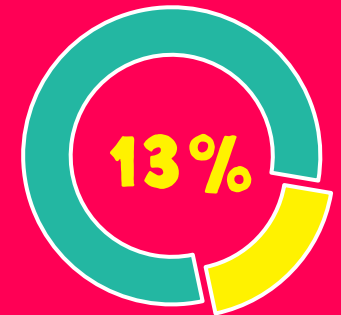
participants live in the
most deprived postcodes in
the UK*



of students were from an ethnic
minority background



of students were eligible for pupil
premium



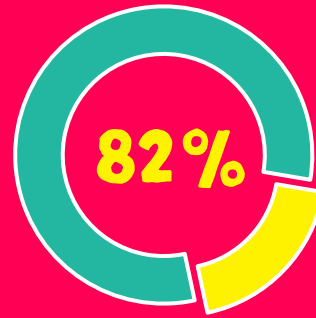
of students had a statement of
special educational needs

*Calculated by attendance at schools in deciles 1-3 of the Index of Multiple Deprivation

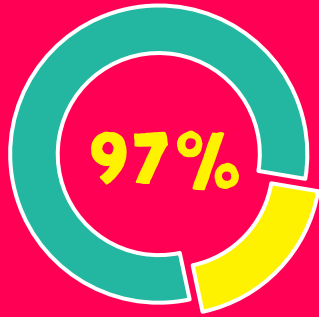
OUR TEACHERS

567 

the number of teachers whose skills we developed in the last year



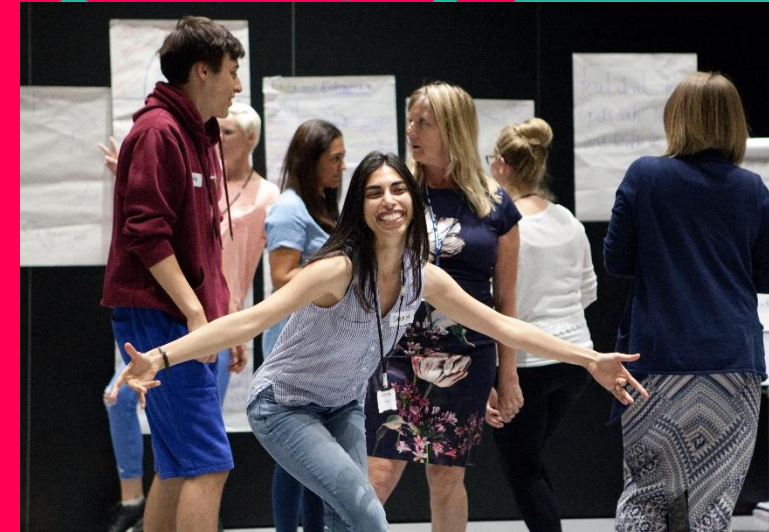
said their teaching had improved through the project



of teachers said they had a better relationship with their students following participation in our Theatre Festival

"It was one of the **best experiences of my teaching career**, seeing our students come out of their shell was incredible."

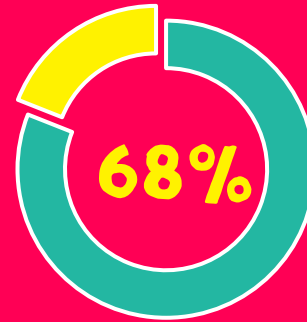
Laura, Teacher-Director at Maltby Academy, Yorkshire



OUR AUDIENCES

20,648 

total audience size for the
2023-24 Coram Shakespeare
Schools Festival



of audience members hadn't
been to that theatre before and
**95% of those who hadn't, said
they would like to return**

4 IN 5 

audience members told us the
evening **positively changed their
perception** of young people in
the community

“Brilliant opportunity for
children of all ages,
abilities and
backgrounds to
experience Shakespeare
and perform in a proper
theatre.”

Audience member, Park
Theatre, London



“This has made me more confident in nearly everything. It was the best thing in the world. I want to do it again and again”

Denisas, age 11, Festival participant



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GET IN TOUCH

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THANK YOU!



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