



The Centre
for Education
& Youth

IMPACT EVALUATION OF LAMDA EXAMS IN SCHOOLS



LAMDA
London Academy of
Music & Dramatic Art **exams**

ABOUT CfEY

The Centre for Education and Youth (CfEY) is a think and action-tank.

They believe society should ensure all children and young people receive the support they need to make a fulfilling transition to adulthood.

They work with a wide range of organisations and people who share this belief, helping them make wise, bold decisions about how best to support young people.

They use their timely and rigorous research to get under the skin of key issues in education and youth, aiming to shape debate, inform policy and change practice.

For more information,
visit www.cfey.org
or contact info@cfey.org.

LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) Exams is an awarding organisation providing qualifications in communications and performance for all ages.

LAMDA Exams serves all school sectors including independent, state, religious and grammar schools, and learners of all ages and abilities globally.

LAMDA commissioned CfEY to evaluate the impact of LAMDA Exams in state schools.



**“LAMDA HAS BEEN
HIGHLY EFFECTIVE
IN BUILDING
CONFIDENCE AND
MAKING IT POSSIBLE
FOR STUDENTS TO
SEE THEIR OWN
DEVELOPMENT.”**

Teacher

RESEARCH METHODS

The evaluation brought together survey data and in-depth school case studies to draw on the experiences of school leaders, teachers and pupils that have engaged with LAMDA Exams.

Phase 1: Scoping and Tools Design

CfEY conducted a rapid review of existing evidence, including evaluations from leading centres of performing arts teaching, to establish a framework of quality practice, which informed the evaluation tools.

Phase 2: Online Survey

CfEY conducted an online survey of teachers within LAMDA's existing networks.

Phase 3: Case Study Site Visits

CfEY conducted four case studies in state schools. The case studies surfaced in-depth and contextualised information regarding LAMDA's impact on pupils and schools, as well as areas with scope for improvement or alteration.



Survey Respondents

- Full-time & peripatetic teachers
- 84% with 10+ years teaching experience
- 90% extremely familiar with LAMDA

Case Study Schools

Phase & Geography	Number of Learners	Length of engagement with LAMDA
Secondary Inner-city (West Midlands)	1235 (13% SEND, 68% English as an Additional Language, 59% Free School Meals)	10+ years
Primary Rural (East Midlands)	204 (10% SEND, 7% English as an Additional Language, 9% Free School Meals)	2 years
Secondary Inner-city (London)	1170 (7% SEND, 34% English as an Additional Language, 53% Free School Meals)	2 years
Primary Inner-city (London)	449 (12% SEND, 80% English as an Additional Language, 41% Free School Meals)	2 years

KEY FINDINGS I

Student outcomes associated with LAMDA Exams.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

We found evidence that taking part in LAMDA positively impacts learners' mental health and wellbeing, particularly in terms of giving them skills to navigate emotionally challenging situations in their lives effectively.

Learning & Academic Development

We found that teachers observed links between LAMDA teaching and learners' behaviour for learning and academic development, particularly in terms of their spoken English, peer collaboration skills, and some specific aspects of their written English.

Learners with Special Educational Needs

We found evidence that aspects of LAMDA's structure and teaching were particularly effective in supporting the academic engagement and progress of learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and that certain aspects of LAMDA's provision were especially well-suited to supporting the development of autistic children.

“I’VE HAD A STUDENT WHO WENT ON TO DO MEDICINE THAT LOVED DRAMA AND LAMDA REALLY BENEFITED HER. SHE WAS ABLE TO WALK INTO THE INTERVIEW AND CONFIDENTLY SAY WHAT SHE WANTED TO DO, AND WHY, AND WHAT SHE WAS GREAT AT.”

Teacher



KEY FINDINGS I

Confidence

There is evidence that learners who took part in LAMDA improved their confidence in a variety of school-based situations, including lessons and performance activities. Case study participants suggested that having challenging and unfamiliar experiences, learning how to practise and improve, and experiencing success were key elements of LAMDA that contributed to greater confidence.

Performance & Interpersonal Skills

The majority of LAMDA teachers surveyed reported observing that most pupils make good or significant progress in key LAMDA skills. They reported the most positive impact on performance skills, peer-to-peer collaboration, and participation.

Other Benefits

We found evidence of impact on unintended outcomes and other benefits to taking part in LAMDA, relating to learners' school-based experiences and wider personal development as future adults.

- Greater resilience
- Empathy and emotional awareness
- Creative thinking
- Self-accountability
- Supporting transition from primary to secondary school
- Physical development and motor skills



**“I WOULD SAY THAT THE
BENEFITS OF LAMDA
EXAMS WERE BORDERLINE
TRANSFORMATIONAL FOR SOME
OF OUR AUTISTIC LEARNERS.”**

Teacher

KEY FINDINGS II



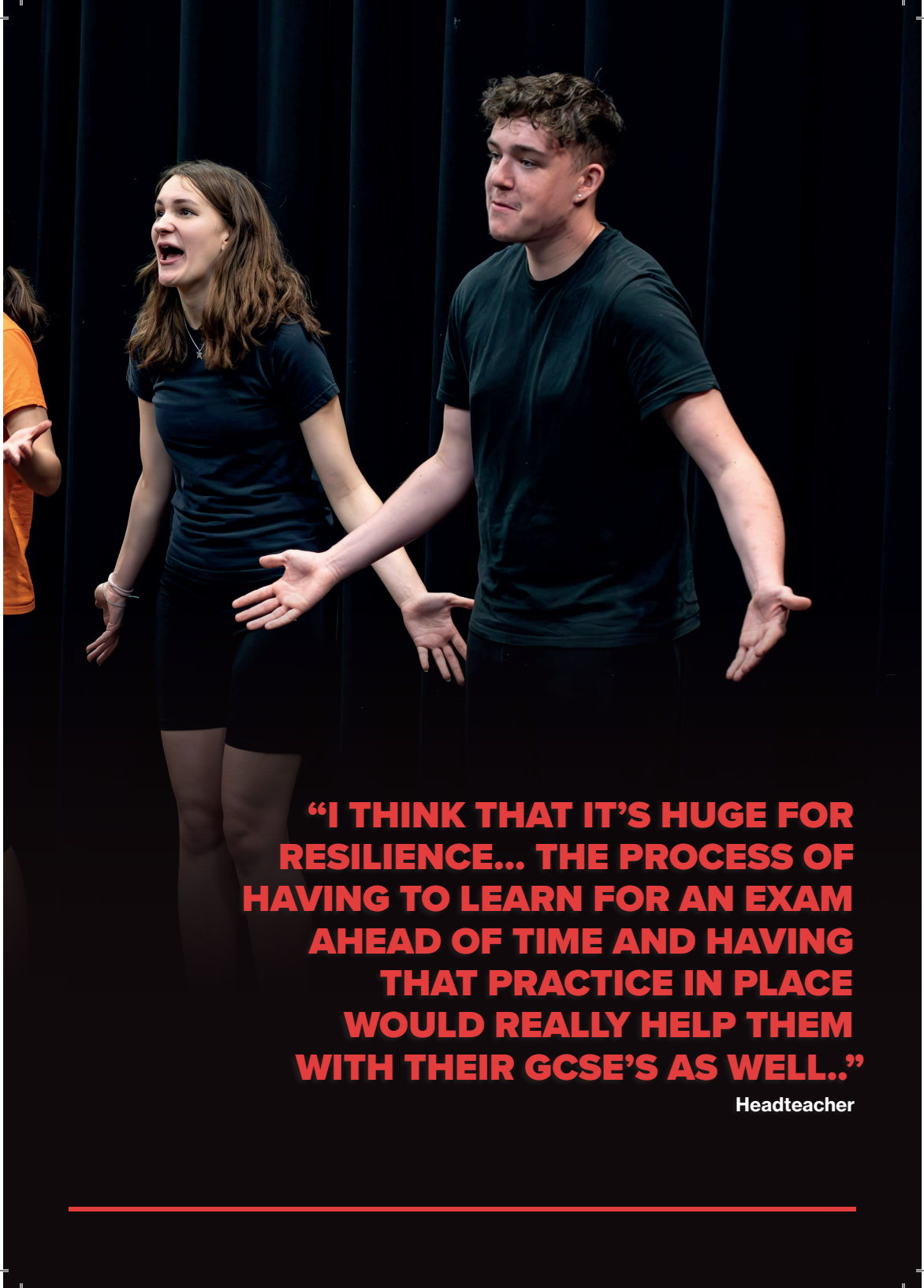
School development outcomes linked to LAMDA Exams involvement.

Inclusive Learning Environments

We found evidence that implementing LAMDA can support schools' capacity to provide positive learning experiences and engagement for all learners, including those who otherwise struggle to engage with or access aspects of the national curriculum.

Parental Engagement

We found evidence that running LAMDA supports schools' capacity to build strong connections with parents and to drive greater parental engagement with children's learning.



**“I THINK THAT IT’S HUGE FOR
RESILIENCE... THE PROCESS OF
HAVING TO LEARN FOR AN EXAM
AHEAD OF TIME AND HAVING
THAT PRACTICE IN PLACE
WOULD REALLY HELP THEM
WITH THEIR GCSE’S AS WELL..”**

Headteacher

About LAMDA Exams

LAMDA Exams inspire and empower learners across the globe to be confident communicators. We are one of the UK's oldest and most respected awarding organisations, offering practical exams in speech, communication and performance. Our exams unite learners of all abilities, backgrounds and cultures, providing them with the opportunity to develop the skills they need to realise their potential.

Whether you're a teacher, administrator, examiner, parent or learner, here's how you can find out more LAMDA Exams:

Website	lamda.ac.uk/lamda-exams
Email	exams@lamda.ac.uk
Telephone	[+44] 020 8834 0530

Scan the QR code to read the full LAMDA Exams Impact Evaluation Report



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