

# What is Arts Award?



Arts Award is a range of unique qualifications that support anyone up to 25 to **grow as artists and arts leaders**, inspiring them to **connect** with and **take part** in the wider arts world through taking challenges in an art form – from fashion to film making, pottery to poetry.

Through Arts Award young people gain a nationally recognised qualification enabling them to progress into further education and employment. Arts Award has five levels, four of which (Explore, Bronze, Silver and Gold) are accredited qualifications on the [Qualifications and Credit Framework](#). Arts Award Discover is an introductory level.

**Arts Award Discover** is designed for ages five and above. To achieve Discover, children and young people **discover the arts** around them, **experience artists** and their work and **share their discoveries** with others, gaining a certificate at the end. This award provides a great introduction to the arts.

For **Arts Award Explore** young people take part in **arts activities**, experience the work of **artists and arts organisations**, create artwork to show their skills and **share their work** with others. Explore is accredited as an Entry Level 3 qualification on QCF\* and is designed for ages seven and above.

To achieve **Bronze Arts Award**, young people **take part** in an arts activity, **review** an arts event, **research** the work and life of an artist or craftsperson who inspires them and **share their skills** with others. Bronze is a Level 1 national qualification and is designed for young people aged 11 and above.

For **Silver** and **Gold** young people set themselves **arts challenges**, organise their **own projects**, **research** arts careers and the arts sector, and develop their **arts leadership** skills.

**Silver**, a Level 2 qualification, has been designed for young people aged 14 and above. **Gold** Arts Award has been designed for young people aged 16 and above, and is accredited at Level 3 with 35 [UCAS points](#) attached.

As they work towards Arts Award, children and young people collect evidence of what they have done and reflect on their experiences. At **Discover**, **Explore** and **Bronze** they can choose to use the specially designed arts logs – or you can create your own to fit your project or the young people you're working with. Evidence can also be collected in any format that works for them and you: a folder, sketchbook, video diary, a website or blog.

At all levels, children and young people work with an Arts Award adviser. This is a trained adult who supports young people in gaining arts experiences, provides guidance and assesses arts logs and portfolios. Teachers, teaching assistants, museum learning staff, art practitioners, youth workers and volunteers can all train as advisers.



**Artsbox** is a brand new and exciting digital platform and app for children and young people working towards their Arts Award.  
[www.artsbox.co.uk](http://www.artsbox.co.uk)



**Award Voice** is our online magazine, run by members of our Arts Award Youth Network, where young people can publish their work to a wider audience.  
[www.artsawardvoice.com](http://www.artsawardvoice.com)