

Project Number 1 – Lights, Camera, Action!!! Bringing the West End to Pakeman

Need: Having seen our children take part in a variety of high quality performances, we realise that there is incredible value in using the arts to support children in reaching their potential in many different areas. At present, the acoustics in the hall make it very difficult to hear the children clearly when they are on the stage, especially when they have solo parts. The lighting does not allow us to spotlight particular scenes or children, or to create the moods needed. In addition, the lighting negatively affects filming and photography, which is such a shame for parents/carers who would like to capture their children's achievements. We want to maximise the experience for children and their families by creating a professional stage system to make our productions 'West End' quality.

Action: **Installing a professional sound and lighting system at a cost of approximately £12,000**

Outcome: The immediate outcome is that the audience's experience will be enhanced as they will be able to hear the children clearly and the lighting will significantly improve the quality of performances and enable precious moments and memories to be captured through high quality filming and photography, as well as making children and parents especially proud.

In addition, through performing children derive a wide range of benefits, including building their self-confidence and self-esteem, improving their literacy, communication skills and ability to express themselves, feeling a sense of pride in their achievement by taking part in something of high quality that is well-received by the audience. Not only does this help children to develop their potential, it can often support them in overcoming their fears and finding new talents that they never thought they had.