

Music and Arts Newsletter for Schools



Secondary Edition Spring 2020

In this issue: arts and mental health, Leeds 2023 and careers for all.

The impact of arts and culture on children and young people's mental health

Last year, the Cultural Institute at the University of Leeds hosted a [conference](#) for delegates from NHS, community healthcare, education, academia, arts and culture to consider how the arts and cultural participation can help improve mental health outcomes for children and young people.

The keynote address was made by Dame Benny Refson, founder and president of schools' mental health charity Place2Be. Young people from a range of backgrounds and experiences shared their perspectives. Chaired by Kimberley Robinson, from mental health charity Keep Real, the panellists discussed accessibility to arts activities, especially outside mainstream education, and the erosion of the arts curriculum in schools. Several of the young people spoke about how cultural participation had contributed to their own better mental health. Conference attendees participated in artist led workshops which shared information and provided opportunities for hands-on experiences.

Health and wellbeing is a priority for Leeds Cultural Education Partnership, a strategic network of arts, cultural, educational and community organisations, which aims to grow the aspirations and talents of children and young people through access to arts and cultural opportunities. The Leeds Arts, Health and Wellbeing Network (LAHWN) has recently been launched. The network aims to

connect clinicians and public health bodies with a range of organisations and arts professionals who are engaging in arts and health activities in Leeds.



News Round Up

Leeds 2023

Have you heard about Leeds 2023? Well, if not, you soon will as it's likely to be cropping up fairly frequently over the next three years.....

Leeds 2023 is a major cultural investment programme, culminating in an international year of culture. It started life as part of a bid for Leeds to become European Capital of Culture.

Things are now starting to take shape! The start of 2020 saw Artistic Director, Kully Thiarai take up her post, to be followed by Executive Director, Mark Hollander. There is a commitment that the programme will involve, engage and excite the whole city. Work with, and for, children and young people will be an important strand. We'll keep you updated with how things progress, but to find out more, visit the Leeds 2023 [website](#), sign up to their newsletter and follow them on Twitter [@Leeds_2023](#)



Career opportunities for students with SEND

Leeds Museums and Galleries, with the support of the Natural History Museum and the Eranda Rothschild Foundation, have developed a 'Careers for All' programme designed to address some of the challenges Post 16 students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) encounter. After the age of 16, pupils with SEND are less likely to be in sustained education or employment. Ultimately only 7% of people with a learning disability have a paid job, yet 80% could enter the workforce (Mencap, 2015).

'Careers for All' provides STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) career experiences, for students with SEND. Activities include work placements, career taster days, outreach, and career fairs.

Career taster days provide students with the opportunity to gain a snapshot into a number of different museum and gallery jobs, including careers that young people may not have thought of before. Students have participated in work experience at the Leeds Discovery Centre, Abbey House Museum and Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills.

"We are always looking for new exciting careers enrichment opportunities for our students, and we are very mindful of being inclusive for all of our students, so the fact that we were able to bring a group of SEND students was brilliant."

Teacher

In 2020 there will be further opportunities at other settings, including the National Coal Mining Museum and Leeds Playhouse. If you would like to know more about the project or want to get involved, please contact

carl.newbould@leeds.gov.uk

Changing faces at ArtForms Music

The end of the Spring term will see a big change in the ArtForms Music team as Stephen Wild is stepping down as Head of Music. Many of you will know Stephen, as he has worked in music education in Leeds for thirty years! Starting as an instrumental teacher, Stephen has worked his way through a wide variety of roles before becoming Head of Music at ArtForms, and overseeing the launch of the [Leeds Music Education Partnership](#) in 2012.

Stephen would like to take this opportunity to wish all children and young people, and those who work hard to support them, a very successful and musical future. In his role, Stephen has made a huge contribution to music education in Leeds and we wish him all the best for his future adventures.



Music and Arts in Action

- Arts Rich Schools: a report from the RSA
- Amanda Spielman speaks at Headteachers symposium on Creativity and Education
- Find out more about City of Leeds Youth Orchestra

- Leeds Teenager Gains Place in National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain

Other Opportunities

Careers in the creative and cultural industries

Creative Careers have recently launched a new website, [Discover Creative Careers](#), which is a great starting point for young people who are interested in working in the creative and cultural industries. On the website, there is a directory which showcases the wealth of jobs available.

The 'Leeds Loves' Project

The ['Leeds Loves' Project](#) is delivered by Arts and Humanities student ambassadors from the University of Leeds. They will come into your school and deliver a talk or workshop about the benefits of going to university, student life, employability and careers.

The talks have been so popular, they are booked up for 19/20, but are taking bookings for 20/21. To book a slot for your school, please contact ArtsOutreach@leeds.ac.uk.

Global Mash Up at half term!

The [Geraldine Connor Foundation](#) are running a 'Global Mash up' from the 19th - 21st February. This is an action packed course where young people, aged between 8 - 16 years, work alongside professional artists. Participants will have the opportunity to have a go at different activities including music, film making and spoken word poetry. It is free to take part and anyone can apply. Priority will be given to young people from Richmond Hill and Burmantofts. For more information, please see [here](#). Please share this opportunity with your students!

Where Have All the Boys Gone?

The National Society for the Education of Art and Design (NSEAD) are visiting Leeds in June where Susan Coles will explore the gender gap in Art and Design. This training day will take place at Leeds Arts University. Full information, can be found [here](#).

Training Updates

If your school are part of the Leading Learning Partnership (LLP), then please don't forget to reserve your place on the upcoming SLDM.



Secondary Music Leaders Network Session 2

10/02/2020 16:00 - 17:30 | ArtForms Music



Secondary: Art Subject Leader Development Meeting

02/03/2020 08:30 - 12:30 | 11-19 Learning Improvement



Please feel free to contact the ArtForms team with any feedback or queries at educ.artforms@leeds.gov.uk