



Leeds Cultural Education Partnership (LeedsCEP) Chair

Role Description and Person Specification

1. Context

Arts Council England in partnership with the Department for Education launched The Cultural Education Challenge in 2015 to improve the alignment of cultural education for young people through **Local Cultural Education Partnerships (LCEPs)**. There are over 120 LCEPs across England.

Established in September 2017, [LeedsCEP](#) brings together a diverse and growing membership of over 50 organisations from arts, cultural and education sectors which cover all geographical areas of Leeds. We believe every child should have access to a high quality arts and cultural education, and LeedsCEP is working in partnership to deliver this ambition.

LeedsCEP provides a collective voice within the city. We aim to lead a path through co-creation of practices and policy, to develop sustainable, creative opportunities that address inequality in Leeds. LeedsCEP's [Action Plan](#) summarises the partnership and its context and priorities.

Between now and December 2023, LeedsCEP will work closely with LEEDS 2023 to develop a joined-up, strategic approach to meeting the needs of children and young people. Partnership Investment (PI) has facilitated the role of 'Children & Young People's Partnership Manager'; a role that has been active since January 2021. The LeedsCEP Chair will work closely with the 'Children & Young People's Partnership Manager' to deliver and drive forward the LeedsCEP action plan and align it to the LEEDS 2023 cultural programme. **This is an exciting time for LeedsCEP, to be ambitious and aspirational as well as building sustainable and strategic approaches to embedding cultural and creative learning for children and young people across Leeds.**

2. Purpose of the Role

The Chair will represent and be the voice of the LeedsCEP partnership. They will provide leadership in realising our strategic vision and be responsible for key decision-making alongside our executive stakeholders, LEEDS 2023, IVE (Bridge Organisation) and Leeds City Council. Working with, and on behalf of, the steering group, they will help steer and support delivery of the LeedsCEP action plan through advocacy and strategic oversight.

This is a voluntary/pro bono role.

Length of Appointment: minimum commitment of 2 years.

Indicative Time Commitment: minimum 1 day per month, to include executive group and steering group meetings, event attendance and networking.

Support Available

- The Chair will work closely with Children & Young People's Partnership Manager (LeedsCEP/LEEDS 2023)

- Additional support from LEEDS 2023, [IVE](#) (Bridge organisation for Yorkshire and the Humber) and Leeds City Council via planning and monitoring meetings.
- Administrative support from Children & Young People's Partnership Manager to convene and service meetings.
- Support, advice and development from IVE including a regional network of LCEP chairs.

Main Responsibilities

- Chair termly meetings of the LeedsCEP steering group.
- Strategic representation of the LeedsCEP at regional and national level, as and when required.
- Ensure that the LeedsCEP is connected and well-networked in order to raise the profile and put forward the views of the partnership.
- Work closely with LEEDS 2023 and its programme for children and young people, including relationship building with the Leeds 2023 team.
- In consultation with members of the Steering Group and Executive Group make key decisions on behalf of the LeedsCEP, ensuring the partnership develops and delivers on its Action Plan.
- Steer fundraising activity and ensure funding agreements are serviced and reporting requirements are met.

3. Person Specification

Essential

- Belief in the value of cultural education as a concept, and the broader benefits of all children and young people having access to high quality arts and creative learning opportunities.
- Sound understanding of governance and confidence in providing leadership and guidance on matters relating to transparency, decision making, allocating resources, achieving results and accountability.
- Strategic thinking and ability to see the bigger picture, with an understanding of how to involve others in the development of a shared vision and strategy.
- Ability to make and nurture high level relationships.

Desirable

- Previous experience of successfully chairing a group at a similar level.
- Experience of leading on organisational development.
- Access to a broader network, for example education, cultural, commerce & industry, policy-making and/or government would be seen as an advantage.

We are keen to hear from non-traditional applicants and welcome informal discussions about how we could support you to fulfil the requirements of the role around other commitments.

For an informal discussion of the role, please contact Sarah Beckett, Senior Cultural Education Manager, IVE at SarahB@weareive.org / 07718453248.