

Lead Creative Schools Scheme



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales

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Background

- Following extensive consultation, the independent *Arts in Education* report by Professor Dai Smith was published in 2013
- 12 recommendations for Welsh Government and Arts Council of Wales, all of which were accepted by Ministers in March '14
- Headline recommendations:
 - for Welsh Government to assert the central role it envisages for arts in education
 - to use the arts in support of the three national education priorities to improve literacy, numeracy and narrowing the gap



Creative Learning through the Arts

Investment

- Arts Council of Wales have pledged £10m Lottery funding over 5 years, between 2015 and 2020
- The Minister for Education and Skills agreed to match this over the same period



Creative Learning through the Arts

- The action plan was published on 03 March 2015
- It is informed by and aligned to Professor Graham Donaldson's curriculum review *Successful Futures*
- It is designed to bring about a step change in the range and quality of opportunities that children in Wales are given to engage with and learn about the arts and culture



Lead Creative Schools Scheme

- Will operate over the lifetime of the plan
- It is anticipated that one third of all schools in Wales will have the opportunity to participate – both primary, secondary and groups
- Schools apply to be in the programme for 2 years
- Applications invited this year and again in 2016 and 2017
- This year is its anticipated that around 80 grants will be made
- Newly appointed Arts Council of Wales Regional Co-ordinators will be dedicated to support the scheme



Which schools are eligible to apply?

- All local authority maintained and voluntary-aided primary and secondary schools, including special schools and specialist teaching facilities within schools
- The following groups of schools are also eligible to apply:
 - groups of small primary schools
 - secondary schools with a number of their feeder primary schools



How will the scheme support your school?

Becoming a Lead Creative School will support your school to:

- Address your development priorities – the challenges and issues you are facing
- Make improvements in literacy, numeracy and in narrowing the gap
- Work in partnership with creative professionals to develop bespoke programmes of work which deliver the curriculum in new innovative ways



- Challenge learners, to develop their confidence and to give them a more active role in learning
- Provide teachers with a rich practice-based professional development opportunity
- Experiment with cross curricular learning – supporting teachers to work across subject boundaries and to relook at how learning is organised
- Facilitate whole school improvement
- Explore how new creative approaches to teaching and learning can improve outcomes for your learners; and
- Develop the creativity of your learners and teachers.



Definition of creativity for LCS

The five creative habits of mind

1. Inquisitive
 - Wondering and Questioning
 - Exploring and Investigating
 - Challenging Assumptions
2. Persistent
 - Tolerating uncertainty
 - Sticking with difficulty
 - Daring to be different
3. Imaginative
 - Playing with possibilities
 - Making connections
 - Using intuition
4. Disciplined
 - Crafting and Improving
 - Developing techniques
 - Reflecting critically
5. Collaborative
 - Cooperating appropriately
 - Giving and receiving feedback
 - Sharing the 'product'



What support will Lead Creative Schools receive?

- 10 – 16 days of support from a Creative Agent
- Grant funding to pay for the costs of Creative Practitioners and materials
- Professional development for participating teachers – 2 day induction and ongoing during the project work in school
- Ongoing networking opportunities – to share and learn from other participating schools



What is a Creative Agent?

vimeo.com/27530632



Creative Practitioners

- Come from a wide range of creative profession across the arts and creative industries
- They are selected by the school and work as partners with teachers and learners
- They are involved in the detailed planning of project activities, implementation of project work, ongoing reflection and evaluation
- They facilitate creative learning activities and support teachers to develop new approaches to teaching and learning



Harrop Fold Specialist Arts College

<https://youtu.be/gJLRxspcEBc>



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Some more examples

- A video artist working with learners across a range of curriculum areas to improve attainment levels in writing
- A visual artist worked with girls studying art and design technology to raise their confidence and interest in maths
- Drama practitioners worked with unmotivated boys to develop their writing skills using role play and a variety of writing activities including character development and story narrative



Journey of a Lead Creative School

PLANNING – begins in the Autumn term

Induction

Partnerships building – Creative Agents, teachers and learners

Diagnostic

Initial planning

Selection of Creative Practitioners

Detailed planning and bench-marking

Submission of planning form and budget

First instalment of funding

ACTIVITY - begins in the Spring term

Programme activity with the Creative Practitioners in school

Ongoing reflection and documentation

Meetings of Lead Creative Schools Professional Learning Network

Participation in Lead Creative Schools networking

REFLECTION - Summer term

Final evaluation conversation with pupils, teachers and Creative Practitioners

Learning embedded

Final report submitted

Final instalment of funding



Annual grants to Lead Creative Schools

- Primary schools £5,000
- Secondary schools £8,000
- Groups of small primary schools £6,500
- Secondary schools and their feeder primaries £14,500

Grants can only be used to pay for professional Creative Practitioners and for materials



What are schools expected to contribute?

A minimum contribution of 25% of the grant offer each year

- Primary schools £1,250
- Secondary schools £2,000
- Groups of small primary schools £1,625
- Secondary schools and their feeder primaries £3,625



What counts towards this contribution?

The minimum **contribution** of 25% can include:

- Cash from the school budget
- Supply cover costs for participating teachers when they are attending the induction and networking events
- Costs of the School Coordinator's time

Schools can use their Education Improvement Grant and Pupil Deprivation Grant (when the target group of learners is made up of eFSM pupils or where a whole class/ school approach will disproportionately benefit EFSM pupils)



Lead Creative Schools are required to...

- Designate a Lead Creative School Coordinator and give them time to coordinate, influence and make decisions
- Allow a small number of teachers and their learners to be active partners and co-constructors of learning each academic year
- Allow participating teachers time to take part in the scheme – this includes participation in the 2 day induction and time to plan, implement and reflect on the project work in school



- Engage in project and programme evaluation using the Lead Creative Schools Planning and Evaluation Framework
- Demonstrate active support from the headteacher and senior leadership team
- Establish a Lead Creative Schools Professional Learning Network within the school and participate in wider networking events
- Use the learning to inform future development plans



Breakout Session

In your table groups, you have 20 minutes to consider:

- What important school challenges the scheme might support you to address
- How you feel your teachers will respond to working with creative partners in the curriculum
- How you will make sure that your school gives enough time to be involved in the scheme

Please nominate a scribe to take notes and someone from your table to feedback two key points from your discussion



What happens next?

Please briefly share the two key points
from the discussion at your table



What happens next?

- The Prospectus, information about the role of the School Coordinator and FAQs are available at www.artscouncilofwales.org.uk/what-we-do/creative-learning/the-lead-creative-schools-scheme.
- Schools can apply online at www.artscouncilofwales.org.uk/what-we-do/creative-learning/the-lead-creative-schools-scheme from Monday 1 June 2015
- The deadline for receiving applications from schools this year is 17.00 on Friday 17 July 2015
- Applications are assessed and schools informed by September 2015



Criteria for selecting schools

Schools will be assessed against their evidence of the following:

- the level of commitment of the senior management team and their ability to mobilise the schools community
- the value they place on developing the creative skills of learners and their commitment to giving learners an active role in Lead Creative School activities
- evidence of how the scheme can support their vision and deliver their school development priorities
- an explanation of how they plan to use participation in the scheme to support improvements in any or all of the following: literacy, numeracy and in narrowing the gap; and
- the capacity of the school to deliver the programme effectively.



Decision making

Selection of schools will be carried out by an expert national panel which will include representatives from:

- Arts Council of Wales; and
- the regional education consortia.



Decision making

In selecting schools, the decision making panel will:

- ensure that there is a balance of schools across the regions of Wales and between primary, secondary, special schools
- ensure that rural and Welsh medium schools are fairly represented; and
- give priority to schools facing significant challenges including deprivation.



Q&A session

Your questions?



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And finally:

- Go back and discuss the opportunity with your school community – how might it support your school development priorities?
- Consider how your school will make the time to fully engage with the scheme over the long term
- Begin the process of identifying a School Coordinator
- Explore how enthusiastic teachers are and which teachers might play an active role



Thank you/Diolch

www.artscouncilofwales.org.uk/what-we-do/creative-learning/the-lead-creative-schools-scheme



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