

Creative Learning Cymru 2025-26

Creative Learning Partner application guidance

Creative Learning Cymru are proud to unveil an exciting new chapter in our mission to place creativity at the heart of education, following Arts Council of Wales's recent successful application to the Curriculum for Wales grant support programme. Funded through a £3m investment by Welsh Government, match-funded by National Lottery funding distributed by the Arts Council of Wales, the £6m three-year programme will run until March 2028.

The new programme will support schools across Wales to reimagine curriculum design and teaching and learning experiences, deepen engagement, and unlock learner potential through bold, creative approaches. This comes at a pivotal moment in Welsh education, aligning closely with the ambitions of the Curriculum for Wales. There will be a clear focus on literacy, wellbeing, and creativity.

What is Experiment?

Experiment will offer an active platform for teachers to collaborate closely through an enquiry-led approach, with the support of Creative Learning Partners, to strategically and practically incorporate creative learning methods within the classroom. The enquiries will focus on literacy development, health and wellbeing, and creative learning across the curriculum. The enquiry topic will respond to the school's development plan, and the Creative Learning Partner will champion Creative Learning principles. This will enrich the curriculum and allow for authentic learning experiences that engage learners and inspire teachers. By operating through an enquiry-led approach, the creative team – teachers, learners and the Creative Learning Partners – will build stronger collaborative relationships and foster effective communication, supporting creative and innovative growth at all levels of the school.

What is the role of the Creative Learning Partner?

Creative Learning Partners play a vital role in supporting schools through our Experiment Programme. They collaborate directly with teachers to design and plan creative learning experiments that address the specific development needs of the school. Utilising their skills in partnership, planning, and their understanding of creativity and education, Creative Learning Partners create authentic, innovative, and meaningful learning experiences.

In addition to planning, Creative Learning Partners are actively involved in the face-to-face delivery of creative learning activities, working alongside teachers and other Creative Practitioners. They apply their reflection and evaluation skills to assess the impact of these activities on learners.

Specific requirements

- Attend a 2-day in-person training session with the Arts Council of Wales
- Co-plan a creative enquiry with a teacher, for a cohort of learners, linked to the school development needs (including literacy, wellbeing, and creative learning across the curriculum)
- Complete an Experiment Proposal Form with the teacher
- Take part in an Experiment Proposal conversation with a Project Lead and Teacher
- Delivery of face-to-face Creative Learning activities shared with the class teacher and Creative Practitioners
- Ensure learner voice is embedded within creative learning activities
- Completion of the data questionnaire with the class teacher
- Completion of the evaluation narrative with the class teacher
- Co-management of enquiry budget with the school
- Selection and onboarding of additional Creative Practitioners with teacher

What are we looking for in a Creative Learning Partner?

A comprehensive person specification table is provided below. Please ensure you carefully read it before applying, especially the essential criteria.

FAQs – Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to apply?

This opportunity is open to artists and creative professionals based in Wales with experience in planning and delivering face-to-face creative learning activities within a school setting. Individuals who have previously worked as a Creative Agent, Creative Practitioner, or Creative Professional on the Creative Learning through the Arts programme are welcome to apply. However, you do not need to have been part of our previous Creative Learning Programmes to apply.

Will I receive training to undertake the role?

Successful applicants will be invited to attend a two-day training event to ensure they are fully prepared for the role. Individuals will be paid £300 per day to attend the training. Please note that an invitation to attend training does not automatically mean individuals will be allocated a school to work with (see point below).

If I am invited to training, will I be guaranteed a school to work with?

The allocation of Creative Learning Partners to schools is a complex process that involves several factors; therefore, we cannot guarantee that individuals will be allocated a school to work with if they attend the training. However, as mentioned, all individuals will be paid to attend training.

How many schools will I be allocated to work with?

We anticipate that Creative Learning Partners will work with a maximum of two schools.

How much will I be paid?

Creative Learning Partners will be offered £3000 plus travel expenses for each school they work with in an academic year. This is the equivalent of 10 working days.

How many Creative Learning Partners will be appointed?

We anticipate approximately 40-50 Creative Learning Partners being appointed.

Will the role require a DBS certificate?

Yes, all Creative Learning Partners will require a DBS issued by the Arts Council of Wales.

In terms of my availability, how flexible do I need to be?

Creative Learning Partners will need some level of flexibility to meet the needs of their school. There are generous windows for planning and delivery that should adequately meet the needs of all partners. Key dates are listed below.

Will I be delivering directly to learners?

Yes, a core part of the Creative Learning Partner role will be direct delivery to learners. A minimum of five days should be allocated for this.

Who determines the focus of the learning?

Each Experiment will be enquiry-led. The enquiry question should be generated collectively by the class teacher, Creative Learning Partner, and learners, drawing upon the school's development priorities.

How will I be supported through the programme?

In addition to training, Creative Learning Partners will be allocated a Project Lead to work with. Project Leads will act as a critical support mechanism, offering feedback, knowledge, and advice as needed.

How does a Creative Learning Partner compare to being a Creative Agent or Creative Practitioner?

The Creative Learning Partner draws upon the skill sets of a Creative Agent and Creative Practitioner. Creative Learning Partners must be able to co-plan a creative enquiry with their school and be involved in its delivery. As such, they will require project management skills, as well as the ability to deliver face-to-face creative learning activities.

* Please note that you do not need to have previously worked on the Creative Learning programme to apply for this role.

Is the role of the Creative Learning Partner and the Creative Practitioner the same?

No. The Creative Learning Partner is contracted directly by the Arts Council of Wales to work with schools to plan, deliver, and reflect on their Experiments.

Creative Practitioners are contracted directly by schools to work on their Experiments using funds provided by the Arts Council of Wales.

Will there be further opportunities to apply for the role of Creative Learning Partner?

Yes, the intention is to recruit a further cohort of Creative Learning Partners in the next academic year.

Can I apply to be a Creative Learning Partner if I am working on the Creative Learning Cymru's Explore or Creative Leadership Programme?

Yes. Being part of Explore or the Creative Leadership Programme does not restrict you from applying to become a Creative Learning Partner.

Who should I contact if I have further queries or questions?

Please email Huw Evans (Huw.Evans@arts.wales) or Daniel Trivedy (Daniel.Trivedy@arts.wales)

How do I apply?

All applicants should complete a Creative Learning Partner [application form](#). Additionally, applicants should complete an [Equal Opportunities monitoring Form](#) - this information will be treated confidentially and will not be processed with your application.

We anticipate this opportunity being highly competitive. Please remember to cross-reference your answers with the person specification below. We do not require a C.V.

Key dates

Call out for Creative Learning Partners opens	18 August 2025
Deadline for applications	26 September 2025
Potential Creative Learning Partners invited to training	w/c 20 October 2025
Two-day training for Creative Learning Partners (North Wales)	10 & 11 November 2025*
Two-day training for Creative Learning Partners (Mid/West Wales)	17 & 18 November 2025*
Two-day training for Creative Learning Partners (South Wales)	24 & 25 November 2025*
Creative Learning Partners matched with school	w/c 1 December 2025
Contract issued and DBS checks	w/c 1 December 2025
Planning window	January 2026 – March 2026
Delivery Window	February 2026 – June 2026

*All applicants must be available for the 2-day training. Please do not apply if you are not available to attend both days of training at your chosen location.

Person Specification – Creative Learning Partner

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The education context in Wales and challenges faced by schools • Social and cultural context of Wales • Creativity, the creative process, and Creative Learning • The relationship between their own creative practice and the creativity of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum planning and school needs • Child-centred learning • Creative Learning and it's place in contemporary education theory • Literacy
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management and working to deadlines • Ability to seek out and work with a range of partners • Interpersonal and partnership working • Ability to devise with colleagues programmes of activity that meet the development priorities of schools and their learners • Problem solving and overcoming obstacles • A live creative practice • Budget Management • Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work through the medium of Welsh • Risk assessment of learning activities

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership working with schools • Working with teachers and learners as equal partners • Running project(s) within a school setting • Delivering creative workshops to learners • Evaluation and reflective practice • Managing budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting Professional Development sessions for schools/teachers • Building long-term, sustainable relationships with individuals and organisations
Disposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to the vision of Creative Learning Cymru • Ambassador for change • Role model for learners 	