

The City Classroom

Insights and Data
2017 to 2022

Working together to ensure every child and young person thrives through a rich and adventurous cultural education.

Overview

The City Classroom is the Leicester(shire) gateway to high quality arts and cultural learning.

As the Cultural Education Partnership for Leicester(shire), developed by a group of local arts organisations, it's ever growing membership is working collaboratively to produce, programme and provide access to inspiring creative experiences; raising standards and supporting children and young people's progression. It uses frameworks including Arts Award and Artsmark to support this development and enhance learning outcomes.

The City Classroom brings together organisations, schools, artists and creatives to provide a co-ordinated, planned and strategic approach to providing cultural experiences for young people in our city and county.

The City Classroom became a membership programme in 2017, with a focus on primary and SEN cultural education. This review highlights the reach, impact and insight achieved across four years, giving a true picture of the benefits of collaborative working.

Membership

We have a strong membership model which has grown by 48% from year one to the current year. We have a mixed membership featuring engagement from Schools, Freelance Artists and Arts and Cultural Organisations.

All working together to ensure every child and young person thrives through a rich and adventurous cultural education.

In Search of Creativity

"Creativity means that you should try your best and whatever is left is a masterpiece"

Sheema, aged 9.

A membership programme that is worth being a part of...

Our school continues to benefit from being a member of this high quality local membership programme as it is extremely good value for money and comes with a plethora of support, ideas and access to diverse and unique educational experiences (not just for the kids but for me too!).

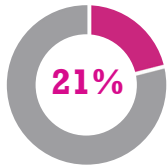
Teacher, Little Hill Primary School

Headlines

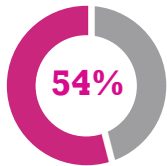
To date we have reached



City Primary Schools



County Primary Schools



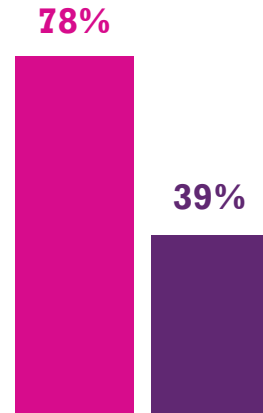
SEND Schools across the city and county

£ 500,000

As a partnership we have secured over half a million pounds all committed to delivering inspiring creative opportunities for our county's children and young people and earned £62,000 through membership and activity income.

Audience Spectrum Profile

A sample of postcodes taken from 2018/19 show that the children typically come from low engagement areas,



with 78% of our participants being from low engagement areas, compared to 39% regionally.

5 Art Forms

dominate the delivery for our children:



Dance



Music



Theatre and drama



Reading & writing (including poetry)



Arts, crafts & design

Demographics

From a sample of our engagement data, we can clearly see the demographics of the children we work with and for:

54% English as an Additional Language

21% Free School Meals

30% Pupil Premium

1% Looked After Children

45% Children with an education, health and care plan

15% Children with a Disability

Amelie's Voice – Do Schools Destroy Creativity?

Before the 19th century there was no distinct education system. Teachers could teach, and students could learn without the government sticking their nose in. But then happened the industrial revolution, and subjects which would be useful in the working world were prioritised. And now we have a system which sees creativity as an amenity rather than a necessity.

By Amelie, Age 15

Data collected through project reports and the Collective Outcomes Tool.
Organisations returning COTS: Attenborough Arts Centre, Bamboozle, Charnwood Arts, Leicester Libraries, Linda Harding, Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester Museum & Art Gallery, The Spark Arts for Children.

Signature Activity

CYP Summits

Each event was an opportunity for consultation with 100 children from ten schools and a day full of curriculum linked creative activity for children and teachers. Delivered in partnership with over 30 partners.

In Search of Creativity (2016) youtu.be/bsxwOhAr3KU

The Art of Maths (2017)

Space to Read (2019) youtu.be/0WVdEL1Vxkl

Teacher CPDs

9 bespoke CPD sessions for members
engaging 78 teachers

Summer Activity

The City Passport developed in partnership with the city/county Arts Marketing group. A listings of creative activity for children and families to take part in. 10,000 passports were distributed through member schools over two years, with 15 arts and cultural partners.

Member meetings & Symposiums

Conference 2017 / Members Meeting 2017/

Symposium 2018 / AGM 2018 / AGM 2019

Activity listings

Ten termly printed listings, sent directly to over 400 head teachers promoting the work of our members. Plus regular e-news and updates to members, schools and subscribers.

Interactive website

with listings from members, creating a shop window of high quality cultural education in Leicester and Leicestershire.

www.cityclassroom.org

A responsive partnership

Recovery Programme

Resilience & Wellbeing Sandpits,
Artist School Peer Support.

Summer School 2021

Arts & Schools working together to level up

Black Curriculum

First Steps Report, CPD & Resources

A Responsive Colleague for the Independent Artist

“This initiative is hands on, responsive, reactive, and knowledgeable and ensures high quality. The City Classroom know what they are doing at a grass roots level and understand how to engage with schools, mainly because they consult and listen to our schools for the benefit of both school and artist. The City Classroom acts as an agent, a mentor and a colleague. Even with my many years of experience as an arts in education practitioner, having someone to share ideas, ask questions and double check my working practice is always beneficial.”

Artist

To explore our collection of case studies please visit www.cityclassroom.org

At The Spark Arts for Children we believe culture is a right for all children, to empower and support their creative potential. Which is why we work in partnership, to promote cultural education, to take collective action and achieve a bigger impact than we can on our own. By leading The City Classroom, we have helped to join things up, developed the quality of cultural opportunity for our schools and promoted local learning by creating space for collaboration and new ideas to grow.

Karen Birch
Interim Executive Director
The Spark Arts for Children

Finance 2018 - 2022



Income £605,261

Membership:	£24,161	(4%)
Signature Activity Income:	£33,966	(6%)
The Mighty Creatives Grant:	£80,000	(13%)
Match Fund Partnership Investment:	£453,989	(75%)
Carry Forward from Previous Year Budget:	£13,145	(2%)



Expenditure £600,615

Marketing & PR:	£17,264	(3%)
Signature Activity:	£45,768	(8%)
Research & Innovation:	£13,200	(2%)
Coordinator & Running Costs:	£50,626	(9%)
General Management & Overheads:	£19,768	(3%)
Match Fund Partnership Investment:	£453,989	(75%)

Find out more about The City Classroom

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Philharmonia

