



Creative learning through the arts - an action plan for Wales

Actions for the Welsh Government and the Arts Council for Wales working in partnership Timeline 2015-2016

Strategic Action 1: Improve attainment through creativity				
We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
Establish a Lead Creative Schools Scheme, with the potential to reach a third of schools in Wales over the 5-year period of this plan.	Engagement with stakeholders to develop the programme.	Prospectus for Lead Creative Schools available and schools across Wales invited to apply. Information disseminated to schools, arts practitioners and arts and heritage organisations pan-Wales.	Round 1 Lead Creative Schools confirmed.	
Support our Lead Creative Schools over a minimum of two years to bring about improvements in outcomes for learners.			Project planning in Round 1 Lead Creative Schools.	Project implementation in Round 1 Lead Creative Schools.
Consider the impact, if any, of Professor Graham Donaldson's report on Assessment and the National Curriculum for the methodology of the Lead Creative Schools Scheme.	Make any necessary adjustments to the methodology of the Lead Creative Schools Scheme.			

Strategic Action 2: Increase and improve arts experiences and opportunities for learners



We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
Develop an arts and creative learning portal hosted on Hwb, the all-Wales learning platform.			Site development.	Site launch.
Fund four Arts and Education Networks to deliver a range of activities at regional, local and school level.		Applications for four Arts and Education Regional Networks invited.	Arts and Education Regional Networks confirmed and set up. Arts and Education Regional Networks establish relationships with stakeholders.	Programme of work underway to include arts champions, and regional network meetings.
Set up an 'Experiencing the Arts' fund for schools.		Criteria developed for 'Experiencing the Arts' fund.	Application and decision-making process for 'Experiencing the Arts' fund developed.	Applications invited for 'Experiencing the Arts' fund.
Integrate arts-based activities where appropriate in the training and support provided to schools to implement the Literacy and Numeracy Framework.	Raise awareness with stakeholders of the importance of arts-based activities when delivering support on the Literacy and Numeracy Framework.	Facilitate ways in which arts-based activities can be embedded in ongoing support on the Literacy and Numeracy Framework.		

We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
Work with the arts and heritage sectors to promote opportunities to support learners to develop literacy and numeracy skills.	Engage with arts and heritage stakeholders to inform the Welsh Government's refresh of the National Literacy and Numeracy Programmes.		<p>Publish the revised National Literacy and Numeracy Programmes, incorporating input from the arts and heritage sectors.</p> <p>Publish a toolkit to support literacy/ numeracy and the arts.</p>	
Work with arts and cultural organisations to increase their education 'offer' to schools, to make it more accessible and in line with schools' needs and priorities.			Information sessions with arts practitioners and arts and heritage organisations pan-Wales.	<p>Professional learning for arts practitioners and arts and heritage organisations.</p> <p>Arts champions appointed and working with schools.</p>
Include the arts in the Pupil Offer for Pathways to Success Schools as part of Schools Challenge Cymru.	Continue to work with Pathways to Success Schools to incorporate the arts within their Pupil Offer.			
Develop a learning pack on using the Pupil Deprivation Grant in support of arts and cultural activity.	Guidance on using the Pupil Deprivation Grant to support arts and cultural activity published online.		Learning pack on PDG and arts and cultural activity published online.	Monitor the uptake of the guidance and learning pack amongst practitioners.

We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
Consider the findings of the Review to Identify More Able and Talented Provision across Wales, and develop appropriate actions.	Findings of the identification of the provision for more able and talented learners published online.			
Ask Careers Wales to work with the sector to provide up-to-date and accessible online information about arts and creative occupations.	As part of their 2015-16 remit, Careers Wales will update the online national and regional Labour Market information (LMI) to show the requirements and future opportunities across different economic sectors, including the arts and creative industries.			
Work with our national cultural organisations and other stakeholders to explore options for communicating information about career pathways in the arts/cultural/creative sectors.			Consult with stakeholders on career/skills pathways and develop communications strategy.	
Work with Youth Engagement and Progression coordinators in the local authorities to promote participation in the arts for young people at risk of leaving school without qualifications.			Arts and Education Regional Networks establish relationships with coordinators.	

Strategic Action 3: Support our teachers and arts practitioners to develop their skills

We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
<p>Develop professional learning opportunities for teachers and arts practitioners in our All-Wales Arts Programme that support the national priorities of improving standards of literacy and numeracy and of narrowing the attainment gap and which are fully aligned to the Professional Learning Model.</p>				<p>First professional learning opportunities available to schools.</p>
<p>Offer a bespoke professional learning programme for all practitioners – teachers and creative practitioners – in our Lead Creative Schools Scheme.</p>			<p>Professional learning programme for artists and representatives from arts and heritage organisations who will act as Creative Agents in Lead Creative Schools begins.</p>	<p>Professional learning for teachers from Lead Creative Schools begins.</p> <p>Professional learning programme for artists and representatives from arts and heritage organisations who will act as Creative Practitioners in Lead Creative Schools begins.</p> <p>Teachers from Lead Creative Schools continue with practice-based learning.</p>

We will	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Autumn 2015	Spring 2016
Develop a sustainable approach to professional learning through 'training the trainers' for our Lead Creative Schools Scheme.			Training of trainers from within Wales to support knowledge transfer and capacity building for Lead Creative Schools. 	
Include creative teaching methodology and collaboration with arts/cultural organisations in the structure for the new Masters programmes that will be launched in 2016.	Specification for the new Masters out to tender.	Masters contract awarded.	Development of modules. 	
Encourage ITET centres to promote creative teaching methodology and links with the Lead Creative Schools Scheme, and encourage the embedding of the arts into ITET programmes.			Communication and engagement with ITET centres.	Opportunities for ITET centres to collaborate in Lead Creative Schools Scheme.
Develop case studies of effective practice, including examples of arts participation in line with the Professional Learning Model.				Case studies developed for Learning Wales/Hwb.