



Elements

Working together: creative collaborations

**RESEARCH
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**



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Why collaborations between Early Years settings and arts organisations?

- Language development
- Conversational skills
- Co-operation
- Decision making
- Critical thinking
- Cultural awareness
- Fosters creativity
- Curiosity in the world
- Imagination
- Improves academic performance

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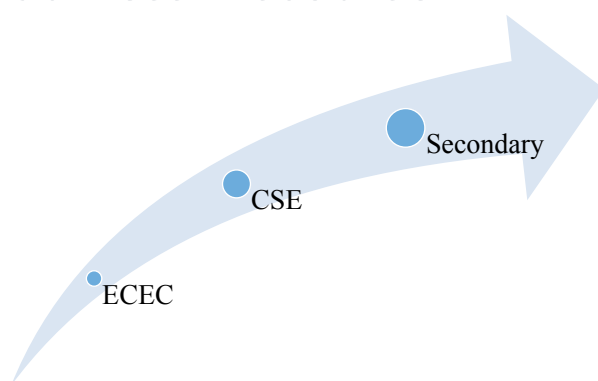
Who are our children?

‘every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured’

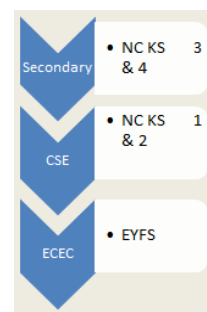
(DfE, 2017: 6)

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The educational political context ‘Readiness Discourse’



The EYFS promotes teaching and learning to ensure children’s ‘school readiness’. (DfE, 2017: 5)



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Creative Elements



- Soundwaves
- Hopper
- Small Steps Big Noise
- Elements



Funded by: ACE, InspirED, Paul Hamlyn Foundation,
RIO, Somerset County Council, Youth Music

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Elements: the programme

- Six half days of delivery by the artist
- Local Authority advisor as pedagogical mentor
- Introduction planning, mid-project review and a reflection session
- Case study
- Professional Development sessions

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Arts and EY collaborations

Two partnerships

- ECE practitioner/teacher and artist - instructional partnership (Remer, 1996)
- Education leaders/arts organisation leaders - administrative partnership (Remer, 1996)

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The University research

What are the opportunities and barriers for EY practitioners, LA EY advisors and Take Art EY team to develop long-term creative collaborations and practices?

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Key hindering forces

- Funding
- School readiness
- Definitions of creativity
- Perceptions of the arts
- What arts/education collaborations look like in practice

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Key helping forces

- Funding
- Characteristics of effective learning
- A culture of learning
- Supportive collaborations

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Principles for EY leaders and arts organisation leaders. To ...

- be **advocates** for young children, the arts and creativity
- construct a **shared understanding** of creativity and arts and EY collaborations'
- maintain a culture of **can do** and continue to foster **reflective practice** for all
- foster **relationships** between each other and other leaders of EY settings
- consider and articulate a **shared understanding of funding**, the funding application process and their roles in the process

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Hopper

Helen Robinson, Knights Templar 1st School

Tamsin Mosse, Take Art @tamsinmosse

Stevie Thompson, Flibbertigibbet
@flibberttheatre

Sue Barnard, Surrey Arts, @surrey_arts

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- Pilot EY theatre initiative
- Engaging 3,500 under 5s in Somerset & Surrey during 3 seasons of shows
- 7 companies involved touring to 19 settings
- 3 additional companies exploring ideas for shows with under 5s
- Partnership between EY practitioners, library/theatre staff & artists supported by Take Art, Surrey Arts and China Plate
- Funded by ACE, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Arts Partnership Surrey



Tangled Feet at Knights Templar First School



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Flibbertigibbet Theatre exploring ideas with Choo Choo Day Nursery, Taunton



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The five principles for Hopper

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Starcatchers

@rhonamatheson

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STARCATCHERS
Producing and Touring
Professional Development
Community Engagement

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Starcatchers Productions Ltd | Company No. SC392561 | Charity No. SC044444

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STARCATCHERS

- Specialise in performances and creative experiences for our youngest children aged 0-5 and their parents and carers
- Deliver Creative Skills' training for Early Years Practitioners to build confidence and capacity in using arts and creativity in their daily practice with children and families
- Work in partnership across arts, education, health and social care sectors to deliver our work

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The five principles for Starcatchers

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Zoe Greenhalgh

@zoeviola

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CME EC
CREC

MERYC England
Music Educators and Researchers of Young Children

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON
Registered CME Centre 0000011

Course Mentor & Tutor (North)

YOUTH MAKES MUSIC
mpa
MID PENNINE ARTS

Local Project Delivery & Report Writing

Edge Hill University

Associate Tutor, Early Years & Primary Education
Lecturer, Professional Practice Tutor, Module Writing, Partnership Trainer

First Thing Music

Practitioner Training for Education Endowment Foundation with BKA & Tees Valley Music Service

Independent Consultancy

Under development...
North West Early Years Music Collaborative Community

British Kodály Academy

Early Childhood Tutor & Course Design

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The five principles for Zoe

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