

Are you committed to developing arts and cultural provision in your school? Is your school based in or around Dunstable? Would your school benefit from a funded partnership with The Grove Theatre, Dunstable Library and Inspiring Music? Would you like to shape the future cultural offer for schools in Dunstable in the role of 'critical friend'? Then read on...

Make Way for Culture*: Make Way for Culture Programme is a Central Bedfordshire Council Programme designed to increase the engagement of the cultural sector and the education sector. It is supported by The Royal Opera House Bridge and delivered in partnership with Bedford Creative Arts. Pioneering Partnerships are a core part of this work and the first phase of this will focus on Dunstable.

Pioneering Partnerships: The aim of the Pioneering Partnerships project is to improve the engagement of schools, and their pupils, with cultural activity offered by key local cultural organizations and creative and cultural practitioners in the Dunstable area.

The project will look to build lasting and mutually-beneficial relationships between The Grove Theatre, Inspiring Music, Central Bedfordshire libraries, individual creative practitioners and three Dunstable schools. This is a peer-to-peer professional development project that will enable the participants to work in deep collaboration with one another over two terms. Through facilitated sessions, the cohort will work together to build and test a schools and children's and young people's offer. The legacy will be established cross-sector relationships as well as a clear cultural offer for other schools from the cultural organisations. The project includes funding to design, develop and test a new school offer and includes Artsmark and Arts Award support. By the end of the Pioneering Partnership project all participating schools will have:

- An increased awareness of creative and cultural practitioners in Central Bedfordshire.
- Taken a proactive part in assisting The Grove and Dunstable Library develop their school offer.
- Built strong working relationships with other participating schools in the area.
- Commissioned creative and cultural activity to meet School Improvement needs.
- Started their Arts Award journey or made measurable progression along their Artsmark journey.
- Undertaken creative and cultural activity both in and out of school.

Schools will also receive:

- £1000 of funded creative and cultural activity for small group workshops.
- Support of professionals from the cultural education sector.



When will it take place? Throughout Spring and Summer term 2020. Schools must commit to the fixed dates below and also allow time to visit cultural venues with pupils and to undertake creative activity within the school – however these dates will be at the discretion of the school

Fixed dates (venues will be in central Dunstable but are tbc)

12/02/20	1 – 4pm	Introductions. Sharing school priorities & requirements.
11/03/20	1- 4pm (10- 4pm for lead school)	Exploration and development of current cultural offers for schools. Development of bespoke activity for schools.
25/03/20	1-4 or twilight (tbc)	Open Consultation event with wider education and culture community.
12/05/20	1-4pm (10-4pm for lead school)	Arts Award and Artsmark input and support. Consultation from schools on school offer from cultural venues.
17/06/20	1-4pm (10-4pm for lead school)	Sign off on final schools offer and engagement plans. Evaluation and reflection on cultural activity.
01/07/20	1-4pm	Open Sharing Conference to share case studies with wider education and culture community.

We are looking for 3 schools across all phases to join us on this journey: one lead school, two other schools keen to start or develop their cultural and arts provision. In all cases the lead person in the school must be the Headteacher or a member of SLT with support from a classroom teacher. The lead school must be comfortable to take a leadership role, provide a greater time commitment and be able to show an existing commitment to Arts and Culture within the school.

Please submit your expression of interest to kaytej@bedfordcreativearts.org.uk by the 9th December 2019. Your letter (no more than two sides of A4) should be from the Headteacher and cover the following points:

- The strategic role of cultural and creative and cultural learning in your school.
- How you anticipate this project will tie into your school improvement?
- Brief details of how working with external partners has positively impacted on your school in the past.
- How you will manage the time commitment required to take part in this project.
- What your school could offer a cultural organization.
- Your experience of Artsmark and Arts Award to date.
- How you envisage your governing board being involved/ informed.
- Whether you are interested in being the lead school or a participating school.



Selection will be made by a panel who will consider the group dynamic. The resulting partnership will ideally include representation from different phases and a mix of Artsmark experience. Schools who have not yet begun their Artsmark Journey are welcome to apply but must illustrate a commitment to arts and cultural education.

SCHOOLS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE DECISION BY THE 20th DECEMBER 2019

*Make Way for Culture is a funded programme of activity championed by Central Bedfordshire Council in partnership with The Royal Opera House Bridge. The Programme is being delivered by Bedford Creative Arts through the Culture Hub and The Pioneering Partnership project and by Full House Theatre through The Next Steps initiative. It is allied to the ROHB Central Bedfordshire Creative Network for schools.

The objective of Make Way for Culture is to help more children and young people engage in high quality arts and cultural opportunities. It aims to achieve this by:

- A) Embedding a commitment to joined up cultural activity across Central Bedfordshire.
- B) Creating a formal vehicle for developing and programming cultural activity.
- C) Developing and nurturing a vibrant cultural landscape in Central Bedfordshire.



Central Bedfordshire Council
Working in partnership

ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE
BRIDGE

BEDFORD
CREATIVE
ARTS

