



cultural hub

bourne mouth and poole

A Guide for
Current &
Prospective
Members



Welcome

Since its establishment in 2005, the Cultural Hub has been bringing together schools, cultural organisations and artists to create, develop and deliver the most inspirational learning opportunities for children and young people.

A not-for-profit partnership serving Bournemouth, Poole - and now Dorset, too - in its 12 years the Cultural Hub has directly benefitted more than 12,000 local children and young people. Over 160 projects have been initiated, with local, regional, national and international partners.





This booklet is designed both as a 'how to' guide for current members and an information booklet for those considering joining. It explains what the Hub is about and how to get the most out of it. Some of our recent projects are highlighted, to give you a flavour.

*"It was incredible! Thank you
so much for giving my son
this amazing opportunity"*




Parent

Benefits Of Joining



For Schools . .

-  It provides the opportunity to develop hugely inspiring cultural projects, which the Hub can also fund.
-  Links member schools to a unique, exclusive network with all the major cultural organisations in our region and a wide array of artists.
-  Puts schools in touch with like-minded colleagues, with peer learning possibilities.
-  Facilitates cross-curricular approaches, helping keep creativity alive in the curriculum.

For Cultural Organisations

-  Provides direct links with arts-friendly schools.
-  Enables organisations to bounce ideas off cultural and education-based colleagues.
-  Provides funding to develop ambitious new learning projects, with other cultural partners and schools.

For Young People . . .

-  Participation in the most exciting and inspirational cultural experiences, through leaders in the field, enriching their education.
-  Helps grow confidence, aspiration and engagement, which in turn benefits families and communities.



"We are delighted that the Cultural Hub in Bournemouth & Poole has proved sustainable & that the cultural organisations & local authorities continue to work collectively to enhance the cultural offer to children & young people"

Phil Gibby, Area Director South West, Arts Council England






Our Cultural Partners

Joining the Cultural Hub gives members unrivalled access to the major cultural organisations in our region, with the opportunity to build up close relations. Here are some of our current partners:







Cultural Hub: the Basics

It can be a little daunting when first joining but, essentially, the Cultural Hub works in a very democratic way.

-  All members pay a fee to join. All subscriptions, along with financial and in-kind offers from our cultural partners, are pooled, creating an annual project budget
-  All members can bid for project funding in partnership with others
-  All members get a say on which projects are successful
-  Hub cultural partners frequently pull in external funding to further add value to projects proposed
-  The only deduction is a 15% annual charge, which Wave deducts to cover costs administering and chairing the Hub

The four concrete benefits members can then access from the Cultural Hub are:

-  Significant funding for projects, from the pooled budget
-  For schools: an additional 'Access to Culture' grant of up to £200 per annum - an easy way to obtain funds so that young people can access a cultural opportunity
-  Fantastic networking opportunities, with the opportunity to develop personal relations with like-minded schools and major cultural organisations.
-  An extensive array of free offers from members, ranging from expert assistance with funding bids to free rehearsal spaces to workshops in school and much, much more.



Getting Funding for Projects

& Making Them Happen

Making fantastic projects happen is the bedrock of Cultural Hub activity. To get funding, it is crucial to attend Cultural Hub meetings. This is where schools and cultural organisations make contact, share ideas and start to develop projects.

Meetings take place twice a term, 6 times a year, running from 1.30-4pm. They are held at a different member's venue each time, to promote understanding of each organisation's work.

Any member can put forward a proposal, but it must include at least two partners (at least one a Hub school / one a Hub cultural organisation).





The minimum time from conception to approval of funding for projects is six weeks, as they need to straddle two Cultural Hub meetings, so you need to plan this in when formulating projects.

Step 1

Seed ideas are put forward by a member at the initial Cultural Hub meeting. This flags up the proposal to other Hub partners, who can then register an interest, and help develop the project moving forward.

Step 2

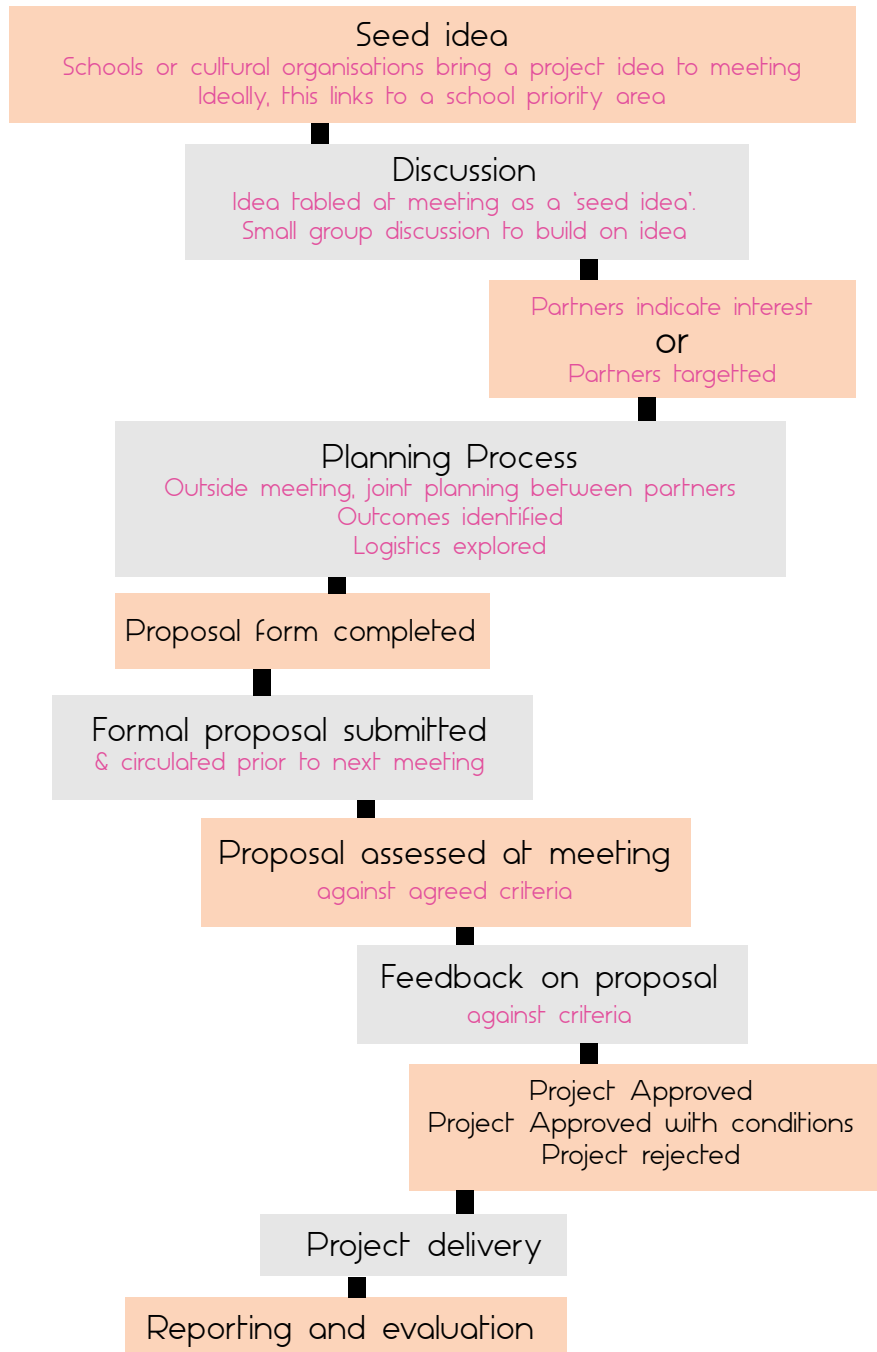
The idea is refined in between meetings by partners and, once ready, a formal proposal form is written up and submitted by the project lead to Wave two weeks prior to the next meeting, for circulation to all members. The proposal outlines the project, lists all the partners involved and lays out the proposed budget. The lead partner presents the project at this meeting. The outcome is decided there and then.

-  Accepted as is
-  Accepted with amendments
-  Rejected and passed back for adjustment & possible resubmission at the next meeting
-  Dropped altogether

Each attending member has one vote and a majority holds sway. The process is designed to strengthen and improve proposals.

Once approved, the project can start immediately. Updates of projects are shared at subsequent Hub meetings and, once completed, an evaluation form is submitted plus photos and feedback. Schools and organisations can be involved in more than one project simultaneously. The final 30% of payment is held back until evaluations are received . . .

How Cultural Hub Projects Happen



Access to Culture Grant

Schools can apply for a one-off grant annually of up to £200, to facilitate access to a cultural experience for their young people. This can be used for anything from subsidising tickets for a show to paying for transport to take a bus-load of students to see an exhibition. Application is simply via an email request to Wave, specifying the amount requested and what it's for. It is usually approved very quickly; however, it is a finite pot each year so schools need to move quickly to be sure to access it.

Networking

Networking is a key part of the Hub, with specific time allocated at each meeting for this activity. Hub schools can consequently develop close relations with cultural organisations through the Hub; and it is often the case that Hub schools hear about cultural learning opportunities outside of the Hub before other schools do. This is also how project ideas are nurtured and developed.






Accessing Member-exclusive Offers

from Cultural Partners

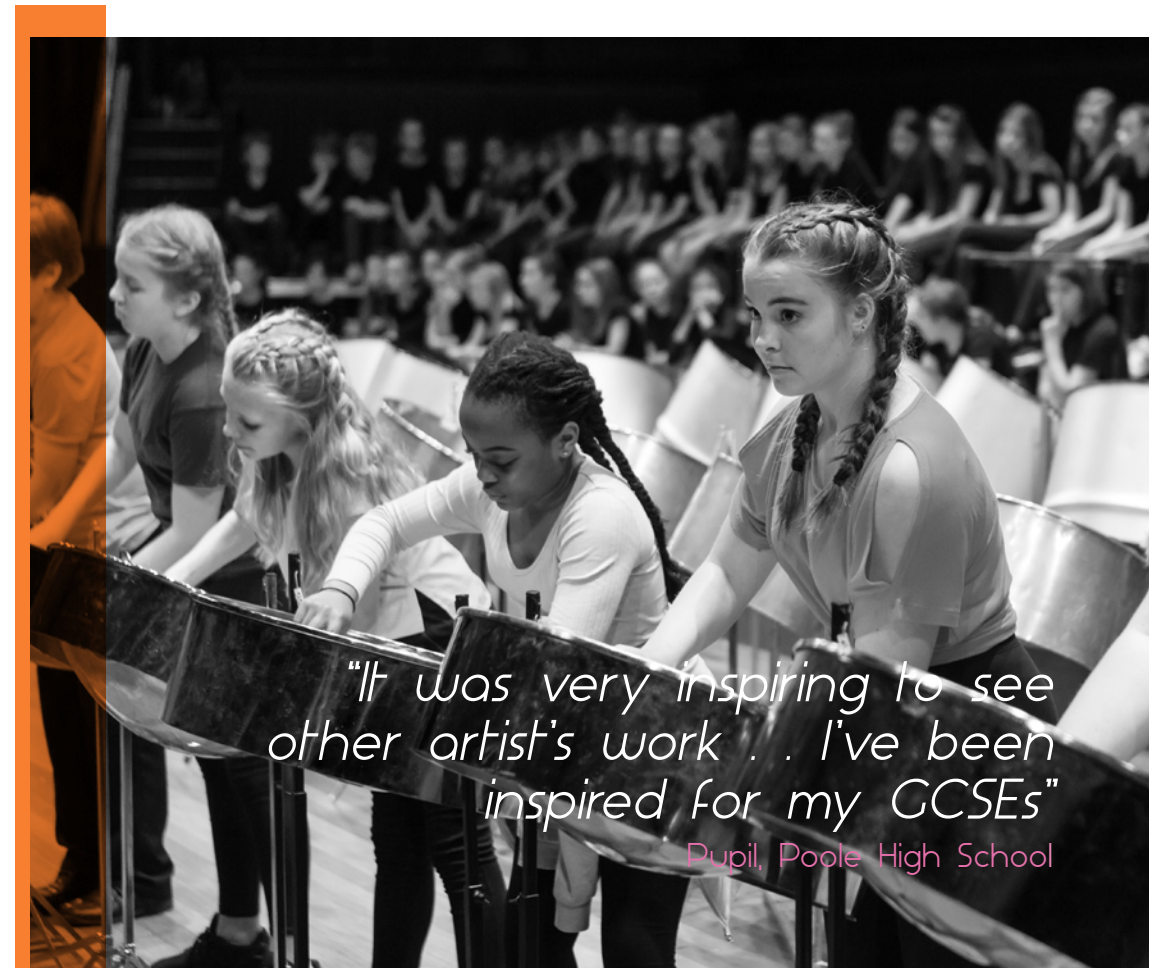
A final major benefit of membership is access to an array of fantastic in-kind offers. Around £20k worth of benefits are on offer annually, free and exclusive to Hub members, from all the cultural members. These are available throughout the year, not just at Hub meetings.

Some examples of the range of free offers currently available:

-  Visits to schools by cultural partners to talk to classes about careers in the creative industries
-  Consultation days on devising school projects around particular art forms
-  Funding bid writing support and advice from experts in the field, to raise money for school projects
-  Arts-based workshops in schools, from a variety of cultural partners
-  Heritage workshops, in schools or at major archive centres
-  Free access to rehearsal/studio spaces/meeting rooms at member theatres and venues
-  Free guided tours of current art exhibitions for students
-  Free equipment loans – arts materials/musical instruments/historical artefact boxes

-  Free electronic/digital resource packs on particular topics eg. WWI
-  Free digitalisation of documents
-  Last minute free or reduced price tickets to shows

The full list is even more extensive – contact Wave to see a copy. Offers are accessed simply by getting in touch with the relevant Cultural organisation; Wave keeps a record of what's been used and what's still available throughout the year.



"It was very inspiring to see other artist's work . . I've been inspired for my GCSEs"

Pupil, Poole High School

Recent Projects

Since it was established, the Cultural Hub has brought to fruition over 160 projects, including 27 in the past three years alone. Art forms used include visual arts, dance, drama, music, sculpture, creative writing, poetry, circus skills, outdoor festivals, heritage, archaeology and film. Hub partners have created huge outdoor festivals on Alum Chine Beach, facilitated exchange visits with South Africa, led educational trips to the Harry Potter Studios in London, and even produced a paperback book of children's writing. Here are a couple of interesting recent projects, to give you more of a flavour:

1. Hengistbury Headlines

Autumn 2016

Exploring local heritage, ecology and climate change through performance, visual art and installation

Hengistbury Headlines was a partnership between Dorchester's Activate Performing Arts and Dorset History Centre working with 4 Hub member schools. Tying in with the biennial, award-winning Inside Out Festival, participating schools took part in site visits to Hengistbury Head, Bournemouth, a site of special historic and environmental significance. They received background on archaeology, history and ecology of the site in school by local experts. 316 Yr 5 and 6 pupils then engaged in workshops in a

variety of disciplines working with professional artists, including painting, theatre, dance and creating soundscapes, with some performing as part of the festival. A film was made of the visits and workshops and, together with photographs and art work, it was curated into an exhibition at Hengistbury Head visitor centre and Stour Valley visitor centre from October to December 2016.

"They loved it! Haven't stopped talking about and watching clouds, even arguing about what type of cloud they're seeing! They were fascinated by all the installations we passed on the train, and wanted to know more about what was going on. They had a truly magical experience, they were transfixed and inspired by their experiences."

St Luke's Primary School, Cultural Hub member school

"The children really enjoyed the different activities that they were involved in. They also learnt a lot about climate change. They found it a fun day, some said 'best school trip ever.'"

Heathlands Primary School,
Cultural Hub member school



2. Far Flung Corners

2013-2017

A musical and cultural exchange with the Gaelic speaking Scottish Outer Hebrides

Far Flung Corners was led by SoundStorm and Lighthouse, in partnership with seven Cultural Hub schools, Scottish schools and the University of the Highlands and Islands. It aimed to alert young people living in Dorset to the longstanding cultural diversity that exists within the British Isles. Around half the population in the Outer Hebrides speak Gaelic as their first language, and the culture is distinctive; yet many of our young people had not heard about these islands or realised they were part of the UK. The project also explored the common ground between our coastal communities, and the shared ecology and challenges.

'The children are still buzzing from the amazing week of songwriting and filmmaking in the school and are excited their creations will be heard in Scotland!'

St Luke's CE Primary School,
Cultural Hub Member

The project reached over 5000 young people England and Scotland across two runs, and featured 12 professional musicians, filmmakers and artists. It saw at its heart songwriting, live performances, film creation, and exploration of everyday life in very different parts of the UK. The project was nominated for a Scottish Higher Education Award in July 2017. Additional outcomes were the recording of a professional CD by the newly formed Far Flung Collective plus an invitation to launch the CD at the prestigious Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow in Jan 2017. The 'Far Flung Corners' recording was named CD of the Week on BBC Gaelic Radio in March 2017.

"To hear the musicians, bringing their passion, talents and knowledge into our school was superb - and the beautiful contrast between the mellow, contemplative Dorset strings - and the fiery, foot-tapping Gaelic rhythms was such a treat! The staff could be heard raving about how wholly enjoyable and uplifting the experience had been in the staff room. To perk teachers up at the end of a busy term really was a remarkable achievement!"

Bethany Junior School, Cultural Hub Member School

"It was a brilliant experience."

Winton and Glenmoor College

How to get the most out of the Cultural Hub

If you have joined the Hub, you now need to get active to obtain maximum value out of it. Get involved, initiate discussions in and outside meetings and make sure you attend the meetings themselves. Here are some top tips from current partners to getting the most out of membership:

Provide a dedicated member of staff to act as key contact; this colleague will sign you up to exciting existing projects, contribute to the planning process, share learning with Cultural Hub partners, and even lead on submitting a project proposal ideally suited to your school

Attend meetings and network; use the gatherings to speak with colleagues about project ideas, inspirations, and the needs of your school or organisation.

Stay in touch – don't be all talk in meetings but no action outside! Keep the conversation and the creative process flowing between gatherings. Communication is key to get the most out of the Hub.

Develop seed project proposals to share with others; they don't need to be finished articles, just an overview of what you'd like to do, who you'd like to work with, which year group/s etc., so that partners can get involved and help build a bigger and better project than could be achieved alone

New to the Cultural Hub? Join an established project proposal to ease your way in but reap the benefits of being a member almost straight away.

Involve young people in project planning; they come up with great ideas, and you can also tie in qualifications like Arts Award

Involve colleagues; projects can reach across the curriculum, and keep creativity alive in a range of subjects

Take up on the free stuff; there's an amazing array of fully funded offers available each year exclusive to Cultural Hub members from cultural partners which can be accessed at any time, not just at Hub meetings – go and grab it whilst you can! Apply via Wave and register your interest as soon as possible, as you can then arrange it at a time most beneficial to your school/organisation.

Claim your 'access to culture' grant; there's up to £200 available to help your young people see or join in with great shows and exhibitions, but the annual pot is finite, so get in as early as possible, to maximise chances of success

Share good news; the more positivity you share with senior management, governors and the wider community, the more they will continue to support your membership of the Cultural Hub



How to Join . . .

Membership is open to all Bournemouth and Poole state schools and all cultural organisations based within Dorset actively working within the conurbation. Independent schools and Dorset schools can also now join.

Membership runs for the financial year, beginning on 1st April each year. However, schools and organisations can join at any time by paying a pro-rata fee, as agreed with the Chair.

Cultural organisations also pay a subscription and/or offer in-kind opportunities. In-kind opportunities need to be accessible throughout the year to members, not just around a project timeline.

Special offer for new members!

With support from the Arts Council England we are currently able to offer special discounts to new schools wanting to join the Cultural Hub. This funding pot is finite and is based on a first-come-first-served basis.

Dorset schools – first year's membership for for £900 instead of £1200!
Bournemouth & Poole Schools – first year's membership for £750 instead of £900!

If you want to join email info@waveartseducation.org.uk call 01202 451508 or arrange a visit to us at Bournemouth Learning Centre, Ensbury Avenue, BH10 4HG

Dorset rates are higher, because of ongoing support from Bournemouth and Poole Councils. Rates are pro-rata if you join midway through the financial year. All fees and offers are correct at time of going to print, September 2017, please contact wave for the latest Cultural Hub joining fees.

Interested but want to know more?

Come along to observe a Cultural Hub meeting and get a feel for who we are and what we do, it's free of charge.

Email info@waveartseducation.org.uk to arrange.



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