

Jordyn Dickinson...

is 10 and goes to Bullion Lane Primary School, Chester-le-Street, which took part in a national pilot project called Cultural Hubs. This enabled schools and cultural organisations to work together. Jordyn, who has a seven-year-old sister called Chloe and two brothers in their 20s, is always busy.

We worked with a photographer called Carl (Cordonnier) who's French. He showed us some Surrealist photographs and we decided to do some of our own. They were shown at Dance City.

I've got a mobile phone with a camera so I take photographs all the time. I've got some of my family but also of apples and flowers.

The reason I like photography is because I can express myself. I took a photograph of myself when I was going to a party and had some lip gloss on. I put some bright red on and some sparkly stuff. It was a bit over the top really but I was just messing around.

I enjoy school and I think it's quite a good school but it's got better since Cultural Hubs. The teachers are maybe trying to teach in different ways so you don't just sit there while they talk away.

I really enjoyed Cultural Hubs because I've done things I wouldn't have done otherwise. I've been to lots of places like Dance City and the Baltic.

I went to London too (to the National Cultural Hubs Conference) – me and a boy called Joshua. Children from Cassop Primary School in Durham were also there.

There were arts co-ordinators and people from the Government and things like that. We told them what we had done with Cultural Hubs and why we'd enjoyed it.

We made a film called The Bag Children with students from Hubalicious and you can see it on YouTube. It made us look as if we were popping out of bags. It was fun but it took a long time. It made me think how long it would take to make a film like Wallace and Gromit.

I think Cultural Hubs brought out my confidence because when I first came to school I used to get upset at the tiniest things. I used to cry if I stood on a ladybird.

At Dance City I interviewed dancers and people in the offices. A lady in the finance department said she'd always wanted to be a dancer but didn't have the chance to go to lessons so she went into a hardware shop and bought some sheets of lino so she could dance in the street. I didn't really expect that.

I have done lots of things, like dancing and swimming, but now I do acrobatic gymnastics, like they do in the circus. I go five times a week to Deerness Valley Gymnastics Centre in Ushaw Moor.

I went to the British finals last May in Stoke-on-Trent and that was a real experience.

They do a big display every Christmas with over 200 people. The first show I did when I was seven, and I was really nervous but since then I've done it every year.

I quite fancy being a teacher when I grow up because I like helping people and teaching them new things and stuff. I used to want to be a forensic scientist but I changed my mind because I wouldn't like going into houses and finding dead bodies.

I'm not one of those people who goes round saying I'm the best, but I like to do things well. I got upset after a maths test because my teacher said: "Oh, Jordyn, you got one wrong. You



usually get them all right." Maths is my best subject.

I play the flute and I'm going in for my grade one in October. My brother had a girlfriend and she played the flute and I heard her play. I got my own flute for Christmas. I've also started playing the trumpet, but I'm better on the flute.

I read a lot. I read the first Harry Potter book when I was five and I read all my mother's old Enid Blyton books. Recently I've been reading The Series of Unfortunate Events. My grandma says she only reads two pages before she falls asleep but I can read 100 pages.

I tend to watch TV when I have my breakfast but after school I never have time. Last week I barely had time to do my homework.