

## Information Sheet

## General

### The Forge

The Forge is a highly efficient, ambitious cultural organisation at the leading edge of participatory practice for children and young people. The Forge has established a national reputation for developing participatory arts work of the highest standard with children and young people.

- Our expertise is in developing **high quality participatory arts and cultural projects with children and young people, artists, cultural organisations and educators as part of a regular programme of work throughout County Durham, Sunderland, nationally and internationally**
- We work with children, young people, artists and other practitioners to develop practice across the sectors. We **develop skills, capacity and vision through training, development and creative programmes** to ensure that our work goes far beyond a project based approach, embedding **sustainable practice** for children and young people
- We have **excellent long term partnerships** with the arts and cultural sector, the education and learning sector and, in particular, with **Durham and Sunderland local authorities**. We are a trusted and respected partner

The vision for the future is to develop The Forge's position to become the leading provider of arts and cultural opportunities for children and young people in the region.

The Forge strives to work in partnership with appropriate stakeholders, partners and organisations to ensure a joined up approach to our work across the region, advocating for participatory arts for and with young people.

### The Forge

- develops and manages projects
- organises and delivers training and CPD
- provides information and advice to schools, youth settings and artists

### Programme

The Forge delivers its programme across three main strands of work, taking a more strategic approach to meeting the aims of Every Child Matters and strategic priority targets, where schools will benefit from a targeted offer from The Forge.

#### Forging Connections

*A dedicated scheme for Durham and Sunderland schools providing arts provision in education settings, along with non membership opportunities for mass participation in arts activity.*

#### Forging your Development

*Training and Development opportunities underpin Forging the Future and Forging Connections, aimed to grow and develop professional practitioners working with children and young people in formal/ informal education and creative sectors.*

#### Forging the Future

*An forward facing sphere of the organisation where great ideas are made to happen, with scope for research and development, as well as ensuring responsive and pro-active work can take place.*

### The Forge

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