

CONNECTIONS

The Forge

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The Forge will continue to provide excellent value for money during 2011/12, with a new offer for schools that you can pick and choose from depending on your school's priorities. From small to large, one day to year-long interventions, it's still possible to develop the arts in your school with The Forge's Connections scheme. Working in partnership with The Forge provides you with the reassurance that your artists are CRB checked, have insurance, are appropriate to work in your school, and ensures that you have access to high quality artists who will share their specialist skills and knowledge with you.

Schools have told us that the best things about Connections are:

- **The expertise offered by The Forge with support and guidance in preparing Artsmark applications**
- The expertise offered by The Forge in the development of the creative curriculum
- **Building the confidence of staff to undertake strategic work e.g. updating the overarching arts policy**
- Having an artist in school

You decide the aim and objectives of your partnership with The Forge. In deciding these, you may want to talk with colleagues and refer to leadership documents in school e.g. your overarching arts policy, and/or your school improvement plan. Establishing your aims and objectives will help us measure how successful our partnership has been and may include:

Aims

- To achieve Artsmark
- To integrate Arts Award in school
- To contribute to delivering a high quality curriculum arts provision
- To contribute to achieving a high quality out-of-hours arts provision

Objectives

- Increasing the amount and quality of arts activity in school
- Focus on delivery within the curriculum or out-of-hours
- Diverse experiences: local; national; global
- Artist led programme or theme established by the school staff and/or pupils
- Involving pupils/staff/both
- Cross-curricular approaches where arts activity may be delivered as part of literacy, numeracy, geography etc.
- CPD for staff
- Transition activity across school partnerships
- Sharing and celebrating the arts with the community

The Forge's programmes can be directly adapted to contribute to specific themes of work that you may be delivering as part of Geography, History or Science for example. If you don't see something for your school contact [Fiona Melvin](#) to discuss further. Click [here](#) for the booking form. Why not [register](#) with The Forge to receive priority information about the programme.

Programme	Days	Art Forms	Participants	Programme Synopsis	Meeting Objectives
Artist in Residence (Art Form)	1 day plus; Out-of-hours	Drama; Creative Writing; Visual art – sculpture, drawing and painting; Animation; Music Technology; Music (Percussion); Cross Art.	Teachers; pupils; combination of both (some artists are able to deliver multiple workshops during the day).	Host an arts partnership in school for day(s), weeks or months. Take the art form or a theme as your starting point which your pupils will explore through the arts. Learn skills and techniques with your artist to use in other areas of school life.	Level and quality of arts activity; Participation by pupils/teachers; Cross-curricular; Sharing & celebrating; Transition; To fulfil plans written into Artsmark applications
Artist in Residence (Cultural Diversity)	1 day plus; Out-of-hours	African drumming; visual art; drama, learn about the arts of other cultures.	Teachers; pupils; combination of both.	As Above	Level and quality of arts activity; Participation by pupils/teachers; Cross-curricular; Sharing & celebrating; Transition; To fulfil plans written into Artsmark applications
Plug & Play	Various, 6 hours delivered flexibly (out-of-hours, curriculum etc.)	Dance	Teachers; pupils; combination of both.	School staff develop and choreograph an original movement piece with pupils supported by professional dancers for sharing performance celebration.	Increasing level and quality of arts activity; curriculum and out-of-hours; CPD; cross curricular; sharing & celebrating; To fulfil plans written into Artsmark applications
Arts Award	1 day training: 23rd February 2012	All	Teachers and Youth Workers train as Arts Award advisers.	Help young people achieve their Arts Award by becoming an adviser and supporting young people's achievements.	Increasing level and quality of arts activity; pupils leadership; sharing & celebrating; To fulfil plans written into Artsmark applications
Arts Policy	1 hour surgery	All	Teacher; School Leadership Team.	Establish the arts as high profile in your school by embedding it within policy. A strong policy demonstrates the school's commitment to provision and quality.	Putting the foundations in place for excellent arts provision; To fulfil plans written into Artsmark applications