



The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design in Education

Tuesday 14th May 5-7pm, Committee Room 17

House of Commons

Minutes of the meeting

Meeting focus/theme: How do out-of-the-classroom and/or community experiences in the visual arts strengthen/impact on what subsequently happens in schools for children & young people, for teachers, and for curriculum models?

Attendees (Please note, if you did not sign the register, your name may be missing):

Andrew Ash; University College London, IOE
Ashley; Kids on the Green
Paula Ayliffe; Artscapers, Mayfield Primary School
Armaiti Bedford; Save Herts Art
Sandra Booth; CHEAD
Tracy Brabin MP; co-chair
Katy Brown; Wolverhampton Grammar School
Jessica Austin Burdett; Artist Teacher
Holly Burton; V&A Museum
Sam Cairns; Cultural Learning Alliance
Susan M Coles; NSEAD. Co-ordinator to APPG
Zoe Dennington; Crafts Council
Josie Dick; Barbican
Ella; Artscapers
Elliott; Kids on the Green
Emili; Kids on the Green
Fiona Fieber; Space Studios
Gemma; Kids on the Green
David Gilks; The Arts Society-Wessex area
Jenny Gilks; The Arts Society-Wessex area
Peter Gregory; NSEAD
Michele Gregson; NSEAD
Anita Hamlin; Museums Sheffield
Penny Hay; Bath Spa University
Jenny; Kids on the Green
Kalel; Kids on the Green
Lucy Kenney; Saturday Club Trust
Heather Leach; The Arts Society-Wessex area
Kevan Leach; The Arts Society-Wessex area
Elsa Lee; University of Cambridge
Zoe LeVack; Kids on the Green co-ordinator

Lex; Kids on the Green
Patricia Lovett; Heritage Crafts Association
Catherine McGill; Independent Consultant
Ashia Oozer; Plasnet School
Rachel Payne; NSEAD
Anne Louise Quinton; Independent Art
Kirsty Redhead; Art teacher
Rose; Artscapers
Ed Rowlandson; Arts Council
Ruth Sapsed; ArtScapers
Jane Sillis; engage
Shazi Singh; Kids on the Green
Bob and Roberta Smith; artist and patron of NSEAD
John Steers; HEAD Trust
Sarah Stepney; Artscapers, Mayfield School
Ian Thompson; University of the Arts London
Stephen Timms MP
Sam Toolan; Open University
Nick Trench Earl of Clancarty; vice chair
Matthew Turner; Barbican
David Vaughan; HEAD Trust
Nicola Walshe; Anglia Ruskin University
Michelle Widdrington; Kids on the Green
Marlene Wylie; NSEAD

1. Welcome from Co-Chair, Tracy Brabin MP, and introductions: Minutes of the last meeting were shared and approved. Apologies from co-chair Sharon Hodgson MP, was attending another meeting in her role as Shadow Minister for Health.

2. Learning without limits: Children as ArtScapers influencing change in and around their school: Paula Ayliffe and Sarah Stepney, Headteachers Mayfield Primary School, Cambridge, Ruth Sapsed, Director, Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination. Ruth spoke about being inspired by a previous APPG presentation (by Karen Elsea and Michele Gregson) which underlined the UK's lowly position in the Kids Rights Index. The ArtScapers project is a vehicle for developing young children as co-creators and researchers. A detailed report on the work, involvement of schools and the impact was given, with the voices of young participants being shared by both Ella and Rosy, pupils at Mayfield primary school. Paula and Sarah shared with us the need for headteachers to lead and not give into curriculum pressure and how their involvement in this had reminded them why they had chosen a teaching career. Presentation at this link: nsead.org/APPG/papers.aspx

3. Learning Everywhere: School Without Walls and Forest of Imagination: Dr Penny Hay, Research Fellow, Centre for Cultural and Creative Industries and Senior Lecturer in Arts Education, Institute for Education, Bath Spa University Director of Research, 5x5x5=creativity. Penny began with the statement that 'We are all guardians of children's creativity'. The work of 5x5x5=creativity/House of Imagination is all about researching and supporting children and young people's creativity through partnerships between educational settings, artists and cultural centres in environments of enquiry. School Without Walls is a co-enquiry, a residency-based model of experiential and creative learning that transforms both the curriculum and the learning culture in schools. The impact within a school is powerful. House of Imagination is a studio for children and young people to work alongside creative professionals –

time space attention, co-production. Forest of Imagination is a unique collaboration between the creative and cultural industries and the community of Bath. The projects recognise that children have the innate ability to learn. Art is connected to the world, it is not a separate thing. Full presentation is available at this link: nsead.org/APPG/papers.aspx

4. Kids on the Green, our story: Zoe Levack, Founder and Director, and young people from the Kids on the Green. A group from KOTG attended and also brought some of their artwork with them to share. In the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire, Kids on the Green was set up to provide respite for young people affected by the disaster, using a range of arts activities and sport. Zoe Levack and young people from the Kids on the Green shared their own personal stories about this initiative which grew from the need to offer a space for young people after the Grenfell Tower tragedy. These were very moving accounts as young people talked about their loss of friends in the fire and the impact on them and how KOTG had supported them. The issue for KOTG now is one of funding, they want to continue this community work and will be fundraising to make this viable.

5. Art Matters: Ashia Oozeer, Catherine McGill and Ian Thompson described the benefits and challenges of bringing together 2000 children and young people in an East London Schools' Art Matters exhibition. Now in its 21st year it has grown from strength to strength, in terms of visitor numbers and in terms school participation. The exhibition gives students the opportunity to have their work in a gallery setting and allows them to view their own work alongside that of other young artists. It develops an understanding of transition. It is an inspirational experience for a primary student to see what they might be doing at secondary level as it is for a secondary student to be inspired by the work of sixth formers. But more than that, for a young person to see their work in a gallery setting gives them a huge sense of pride and self esteem. Large numbers of people come to see the exhibition. In the summer of 2018, 1906 people visited Art Matters. The exhibition also becomes a focus for free Saturday CPD sessions for interested teachers. Catherine and Ashia invited members of the APPG to send suggestions for supporting them in securing funding for the future of Art Matters and also invited everyone to the 2019 show, a poster was shared with details on. Full presentations (2) are available at this link: nsead.org/APPG/papers.aspx

6. Why we need a moratorium on the sale of our heritage by local councils: Bob and Roberta Smith OBE, RA, (Artist, NSEAD Patron) and Armaiti Bedford (Save Herts Arts) contextualised and provided an update on the preventable and recent sale of a post-war 'Art in Schools' collection, in particular the disposal of the innovative educator John Newsom's historic Hertfordshire School Loan Collection, by the leader of Hertfordshire Country Council. Bob and Roberta Smith introduced Armaiti Bedford who is behind the Save Herts Arts Campaign. The Council has justified the sale of the art works and maintains that the Schools Loan service 'has become less relevant to the evolving curriculum', something firmly refuted by the National Society for Education in Art & Design (NSEAD). The new Ofsted Framework for Inspection places emphasis on the quality of education through a well designed and well resourced curriculum. Exciting, stimulating learning materials should be available for all learners. Armaiti shared all the stages of her campaign so far and the communications between the Council and herself. Tracy Brabin MP said that the APPG should write a letter on behalf of this campaign, to be addressed to DCMS, to The Secretary of State for Education and to the Minister for Culture. This is an action point.

7. Updates on NSEAD work and campaigning: Michele Gregson, General Secretary. Michele updated the meeting on the recent work of NSEAD, including campaigning for the right for trainee art teachers to a bursary.

8. Whatever happened to the Drawn Together joint APPG action group? Susan Coles, APPG co-ordinator, NSEAD. Susan announced that the joint group's work was 'on hold' due to the current parliamentary focus being driven by BREXIT, but that she was still in touch with other APPG co-ordinators and that the future plan is to revive the relationship.

9. Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 12th November 5-7pm.

10. AOB: Patricia Lovett: Chair, Heritage Crafts Association. Patricia kindly shared the Red List of Endangered Crafts booklets to meeting attendees and briefly updated us of current concerns in heritage crafts.