CULTURAL DIGITAL DESIGNERS IN RESIDENCE

• Three-way partnership between a school, a cultural institution, and a student designer.
• Key content: digital element, visit to the cultural partner, visit to Manchester Metropolitan University.
• Legacy piece and celebration event to share project with parents/carers.
• Students are paid a bursary by the Comino Foundation.
• Projects are collaboratively devised by the three partners.
• Programme has been running in Greater Manchester schools for seven years.
• Students incorporate a range of subject specialisms including graphics, digital animation, textiles, film, 3D digital printing.
RATIONAL

• Growth of the digital and creative industries in the UK.
• Rapidly growing digital economy in the NorthWest.
• Skills shortage within these industries.
• Equality of access for all pupils to culture and creativity (lack of diversity within the digital and creative industries).
• Changes to the national curriculum in schools.
• Increased awareness of need to develop key employability skills.
OUTCOMES

• Provides the opportunity for pupils to understand some of the different applications of digital technology within art and design.
• Updates teaching staff and provides a model for teaching staff to utilise in subsequent years.
• Provides a fantastic introduction to classroom teaching for students.
• Introduces pupils to cultural organisations.
• Encourages collaborative working – between the pupils, between the Designer in residence and the teacher, and with the cultural partner.
Over the last 7 years we have run…

- 39 projects in 9 schools
- with 11 different cultural partners in the region
- working with a total of 45 teachers and approximately 650 pupils
- with 30 designers from Manchester School of Art from a range of disciplines, including Photography, Film, Product design, Animation, Textiles, Graphics.
3D printed chess set: St Ambrose Barlow RC school partnered with Manchester Art Gallery, designer Tom Cockeram
St Ambrose Barlow RC school partnered with Manchester Art Gallery, designer Tom Cockeram

Experiential learning: visit to 3D print facility at Manchester School of Art made a big impact on the pupils. Pupils also had a talk from ceramicist Stephen Dixon, whose Levantine chess set was a key inspiration for the project.
Words can change the world: Fred Longworth High School partnered with the Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art, designer Liberty Dent. Ostensibly a graphic design project, but the real focus was communication: verbal, visual and written. Pupils grew in confidence throughout the workshops.
Word can change the World, Fred Longworth, Centre for Contemporary Chinese Art
Words can change the world, Fred Longworth High School, Centre for Contemporary Chinese Art, designer Liberty Dent
Reuse, recycle, respect: Falinge Park High School partnered with the Canals and Rivers Trust
The projects are not only with Art, Design and Media classes – they have also been with RE teachers, English teachers, Geography teachers etc to show how creativity can be utilised in different ways across the curriculum.
Interactive documentary film: Abraham Moss Community School with Centre for Contemporary Chinese Art, Jenny Bailey
People’s History Museum
Human Rights and the climate emergency: Sacred Heart RC primary school with the Whitworth, designer Sam French
Most CDDIR projects are with secondary schools, but some have been with primary schools.
Self-portrait of the future: Abraham Moss Community School partnered with the Whitworth Art Gallery and designer Sara Merkaj