

Appendix 1 - Culture Mile Learning Case for Investment 2021-22

Committee: Education Board
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Summary

This paper asks Members to note the activity that the current funding for Culture Mile Learning (CML) has supported since April 2020 and approve investment from the City Corporation to deliver activity from April 2021 to March 2022 (summarised in **Appendix 2**). Members are asked to approve funding of £247,000. This request is a 10% decrease from the 2020/21 investment from the Education Board (£274,500) and was agreed to in principle by the Education Board in November 2019 subject to a satisfactory impact report.

Recommendations

Members of the Education Board are asked to:

- Approve the investment of £247,000 from the Education Board's budget to Culture Mile Learning in the 2021/22 financial year to deliver the activity proposed in **Appendix 2**.

Main Report

External Income Generation

1. Funding provided by the Education Board has enabled a contribution of c.2,350 hours of staff time from CML partner organisations from April 2019 to the end of August 2020 which has a value of c.£115,600. The National Literacy Trust made a £22,000 contribution to the Young City Poets project, Culture Mile made a £5,000 contribution to enhance our follow-up work to the Fusion Prize, and the Museum of London made a further contribution of £5,000 to increase the ambition of our Black History Month Project. CML was awarded a £5,000 grant from the Royal Society of Arts to explore digital badging and employment pathways through its Cities of Learning initiative.

COVID-19

2. The CML partnership has responded creatively to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our close relationship with the City Family of Schools enabled us to quickly design new ways of working and to innovate, taking advantage of the opportunities provided by digital working. New models have been tested, from online mentoring and immersive soundscapes, to virtual co-teaching between an art teacher and a professional photographer. These innovations have enabled CML to continue to deliver key aspects of the Cultural and Creative Learning Strategy with significant impact.

3. The partnership has also renewed and deepened its commitment to support an anti-racist and decolonising agenda beginning with an extensive Black History Month secondary schools offer.
4. CML's role in Culture Mile has enabled learning, skills development and social mobility to remain at the heart of its mission which will only grow in importance given the dramatic increase in youth unemployment as a result of the pandemic.
5. CML has continued to expand, adding two new partners this year: The Museum of the Order of St John and the London Mithraeum. There are now 30 CML partners in total.

Achievements

6. CML's recent key achievements are outlined below with further details contained in **Appendices 3-7**):
 - 267,214 children and young people have benefited from taking part in CML partners' learning programmes in 2019/20, with an estimated 93,524 (35%) in receipt of Pupil Premium.
 - Lockdown necessitated the closure of cultural venues but with the Education Board's approval, CML repurposed £10,000 of the School Visits Fund to support the creation and distribution of 9,355 Culture Mile Play Packs to families most in need through food banks, community centres and schools.
 - Four tailor-made CPD projects, developed with and for teachers in the City Family of Schools, have benefitted 41 teachers.
 - CML partners provided 14 online sessions for the London Careers Festival (twice the amount requested) benefitting 90 children and young people. Sessions included workshops on doing an apprenticeship, working in the tourism industry, careers in the arts, developing communication and presentation skills, and the skills needed to be a professional photographer.
 - The six Fusion Prize finalist teams were provided with a breadth of support to further develop their ideas before pitching to the judges on 9 October 2020. Inspired by the interest in the prize, Culture Mile would like to develop a new programme centred on supporting creative SMEs and we continue to explore opportunities to collaborate with Foundation for Future London in the incubation of fusion ideas across innovators and creatives.
 - CML pivoted our work experience programme into online mentoring so that we could continue to offer this insight and experience to young people.
 - 1,118 pupils from 38 schools, including 16 schools from the City Family of Schools and neighbouring boroughs, developed fusion skills by taking part in Young City Poets, in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust.
7. The impact of COVID-19 means we will be unable to deliver our proposed project with The Prince's Trust and so this budget has been repurposed (see **Appendix 2**).

CML Programme for 2021-2022

8. A delivery plan and budget are provided in **Appendix 2**. Building on our work to date, we propose a programme which:
 - Plays a key role in delivering the Cultural and Creative Learning Strategy.
 - More clearly differentiates and streamlines our offer according to primary and secondary/young people to increase efficiency and impact.

- Further embeds youth voice and decision making as well as co-design across our programme.
- Strongly commits to an anti-racism agenda supporting teachers to use cultural learning to examine whose stories are told and how and to question perspectives
- Continues to develop teachers' skills and confidence to embed creativity across the curriculum via a CPD programme which addresses need, adopts a coaching approach and shares learning across schools.
- Continues to give the City Family of Schools priority access to our programmes.
- Responds to the impact of the pandemic on youth unemployment, particularly supporting those who are most vulnerable.
- Builds the reputation of Culture Mile as an outstanding learning destination.

Key projects that will deliver against these priorities include:

- **Culture Mile School Visits Fund** – maximising take-up and impact of the fund in the most disadvantaged areas of London. Grant size has been increased to £600 to cover increased participation and travel costs due to the requirements of COVID-safe procedures and to stimulate schools to return to cultural venues, when it is possible to do so
- **Introduction to the world of work mentoring for young people** who are unemployed, and work experience placements for pupils from the City Family of Schools offering tailored support to those young people most in need including those in care and care leavers.
- **Fusion skills training programme** – building on the Fusion Prize and enabling young people to develop their teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills through a series of arts-based workshops and a creative challenge project.
- **Youth voice and co-design activity** – working with the City Family of Schools and Partnership for Young London.
- **Dual site visits for schools in disadvantaged areas** – delivering new learning days, either in person or online, ring-fenced for schools with high rates of Pupil Premium.
- **CPD for teachers** – supporting teachers to create and deliver schemes of work which are inspired by the assets and expertise of our cultural partners and which employ creative approaches across the curriculum.

Conclusion

The case for creative and cultural learning within schools and the need to support young people to develop their skills and realise their potential has never been more important. The CML partnership has shown its ability to adapt and its eagerness to rise to the challenges brought by the pandemic. CML has a clear direction and wealth of expertise to enable us to continue to deliver key aspects of the Cultural and Creative Learning Strategy, and to ensure that learning is at the heart of Culture Mile.

Appendices

- Appendix 2 – Culture Mile Learning Delivery Plan Overview and Budget 2021-2022
- Appendix 3 – Impact Summary Report: Culture Mile School Visits Fund

- Appendix 4 – Impact Summary Report: Teacher CPD Programme
- Appendix 5 – Impact Summary Report: Employability Pathways
- Appendix 6 – Impact Summary Report: Young City Poets
- Appendix 7 – Impact Summary Report: The Fusion Prize

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