

Primary Schools Programme Pilot Update to CETF: November 2023

A New Direction is pleased to provide an update to CETF on progress with the pilot of our primary schools programme. For a detailed description of the programme please see page 3.

Initial Research and Development

Our planning of the programme has been informed by an initial phase of research and development undertaken in the summer term 2023. During this phase, we developed a Theory of Change for the programme as a whole, and commissioned three freelance researchers to undertake R&D, looking at the following areas of the programme as outlined in our proposal:

- Teacher advisory and governance structures
- Leadership programme and masterclasses
- Touring and Go & See

The individuals that undertook this work have significant relevant experience.

- Sarah B Davies: school governor for several years, practicing artist delivering workshops in schools (advisory and governance)
- Hannah Joyce: primary school teacher (leadership/ masterclasses)
- Greg Klerkx: arts producer with significant touring experience working in and with schools, supports Paul Hamlyn Teacher Development Fund (touring/ go & see).

The team worked up proposals for approaches to each strand of the programme based on their personal expertise and on conversations with teachers. Their reports and proposals included feedback from teachers which were valuable in developing our final approach. Further development has been undertaken by the AND team based on the initial R&D, and these proposals have been road tested with primary teachers who have worked with the organisation in the past, as well as with two headteachers, one of whom is also an Ofsted inspector.

Next steps around consultation and codesign

Our aim is to continue to consult with schools as we move through delivery of the pilot programme. This will involve:

- Evaluation of all programme strands
- A listening project enabling us to reflect on and interrogate our internal process and implementation, in order to continually improve
- The development of governance and advisory groups to hold us to account and to codesign the next iteration of the programme.

Governance and advisory

We are working with Paul Jackson, a highly experienced primary headteacher, accredited Ofsted inspector and Local Leader of Education, to take forward the recommendations made during R&D around governance and

advisory groups. He will advise on the creation of a governance board (final name TBC) led by an educationalist who will also be part of/report to A New Direction's Board of Trustees. The governance board is likely to include headteachers from SEND and mainstream primaries, school improvement specialists, arts specialist organisations, and school-adjacent structures (cultural education partnerships, Music Education Hubs etc).

Alongside this Paul will work with us to develop an advisory team to shape and codesign the next iteration of the programme as we move towards full-scale delivery. This group is likely to include teachers participating in the pilot of the leadership programme and touring strand, as well as teachers who have not worked with A New Direction before. This group will be instrumental in our decision making around future programme content, themes, promotion and wider sharing.

PROGRAMME UPDATE

As set out in our proposal to CETF, the programme comprises several strands, each of which are at a different stage of development, as summarised below:

- **Leadership Programme:** partnership established with UCL Institute of Education who will codeliver the programme from Jan 24. Programme content and requirements set. Applications close on 17 November, after which participants will be selected and confirmed onto the programme.
- **Touring:** experienced producer Liz Bate is working with us to produce the programme. We received 28 high quality applications to codeliver the programme from the cultural sector, of which five will be selected by 17 November. We have also recruited an SEND adviser to ensure the entire touring offer is fully accessible. The programme will be launched in January 2024.
- **Masterclasses:** we are agreeing final details on a partnership with the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education to codeliver 4 full-day masterclasses focused on issues in reader development (poetry, using texts, visual literacy, reading for pleasure). Launch Jan 24.
- **Go & See/ Come & Try (teachers and pupils):** experienced producer (and former arts college manager) Shermaine Slocombe is producing this programme, including tickets for pupils, tickets for teachers, and practical activities for teachers. Launching Jan 24.

PLANNING FOR LONG-TERM IMPACT

Alongside the programme itself, we have been working to develop the following:

- **Evaluation plan & frameworks:** rolling out evaluation and monitoring to measure impact and success of the programme.
- **Listening project:** reflecting on our internal processes that drive success in the programme.
- **Comms:** developing a visual identity for the programme that sits within AND's brand identity and is appealing to primary schools. Establishing a communications strategy and plan to ensure successful recruitment of schools into the pilot.

As we progress into delivery of the pilot we will be using evaluation findings, listening feedback, consultation with schools through our advisory work to establish plans to ensure impact beyond the delivery timeframe for the programme.

PROGRAMME OFFER

The pilot programme presents a menu of opportunities for primary settings (including SEND) across London, from Reception (EYFS) to Year 6 (end of KS2). Schools can choose to be part of as much of the offer as they like.

Cultural Education Leadership Programme

- Delivered in partnership with UCL Institute of Education
- 6 month commitment (Jan – Jul)
- 6 days out of school for taught sessions (including visit to one cultural organisation and one school)
- 6 days of additional project work
- £1,500 per school contribution towards staff cover
- Supporting materials (including one text book) included

In-Schools Touring Programme

- In-school 'show' for one year group (irrespective of size of cohort)
- In-class workshop for every class that experiences the 'show'
- Optional whole-school staff CPD session in advance (twilight)
- Promotional resources (eg flyer for parents)
- In-class preparation activity
- Box of creative materials to support in-class activity
- Teacher resources for further learning
- Box of books to support further learning
- SEND specialist support to all touring organisations to ensure the offer is as accessible as possible

Masterclasses Programme

- Four full-day INSET sessions focussed on reader development:
 - Planning creatively using texts
 - Visual literacy
 - Fostering a culture of reading for pleasure
 - Poetry
- Each session will comprise:
 - Expert input (e.g. from writers, illustrators, educators)
 - Workshop element to explore best practice
 - Next steps session to plan for the classroom
 - Teacher resources to take away
 - Relevant books to take away

Go & See/ Come & Try

- Ticket offer for pupils – central London and local venues
- Ticket offer for staff – central London and local venues
- Taster activities for staff – hands on, creative and supporting wellbeing.