Reset Collaboration Plan for Children and Young People

Work differently, move quickly and innovate for bigger and better impact
Though COVID-19 has caused huge disruption to our lives, our professions, and our learning, it is important to remember that we are resilient, strong and good at what we do.

We know that we can adapt and work differently, move quickly and innovate. Let’s take this chance to reset and move forward with what we know works, leave behind what doesn’t and introduce new ways of working together.

The ideas in this document have been developed over summer 2020 through conversations with partners connected with ‘place-based’ working for cultural education. They are presented as part of Reset, A New Direction’s programme of support in response to the pandemic, and share a vision for collective action for cultural learning rooted in this context.
Introduction

Reset How might we adapt to new contexts with new ways of working for better and bigger impact through arts and culture?
- where are you now?
- what can you let go of?
- what have you gained and can grow?
- what are you aiming for?

Change is an opportunity to reset, to listen to new voices and build understanding of new contexts. Developed within the context of COVID-19, we feel this collaboration plan outlines the crucial goal for children and their futures as we move forward.

Reset How can we use this moment as an opportunity?
This is a new challenge in the extreme. Therefore we need to set ourselves a new challenge. People have experienced acute barriers and loss during this period. Equity and local sustainability should now be our top priority. Cultural wellbeing, where people have a sense of active agency, is a must. Building key capacities for children and young people is a future-focused strategy that will help us move forward.

Reset What do children and young people need now?
Collectively, we have a new purpose. Arts and culture is an important mechanism for change.
In order to support a reset long-term, we believe every child and young person should have the opportunity to develop three Critical Capacities to succeed to the best of their abilities and achieve greater cultural wellbeing. We need to assemble; to be innovative and responsive and work together in new ways.

Reset How can we collaborate to achieve this?
There is a new solution. Six Collaboration Conditions will help partners work differently, move quickly and innovate; from teachers within and across schools, to practitioners and arts organisations and cross-sector collaborations, to local strategic partnerships.
Different perspectives will help achieve more and better. Whether you are a teacher, practitioner, community leader or CEO, now is the time to mobilise, work together, and reset.
How to use this resource
Use this resource as a joint planning tool to support a range of work; from the completion of a school’s Artsmark award, to new programmes of school-based activity, to driving sustainability and change across your local area.

This resource features:
- A Collaboration Framework with six Collaboration Conditions, the foundations to build three Critical Capacities with and for children and young people
- An enquiry tool to explore the three Critical Capacities
- A set of worksheets to explore the six Collaboration Conditions, with facilitation notes
- An action plan template to plan your collective action
- Inspiration, examples of practice and further reading

For more partnership support tools, visit the Powerful Partnerships Resource Library
www.anewdirection.org.uk/resources/powerful-partnerships-resource-library
Work differently, move quickly and innovate for bigger and better impact.

Collaboration Conditions
Six conditions for collective action, to create the right environment for building Critical Capacities in children and young people.

Critical Capacities
The three Critical Capacities children and young people need to succeed and thrive.

What change do you want to make collectively?
Share this diagram with your collaborating partners to kickstart discussions about the types of change you want to make for children and young people in your area and ways of working together to achieve this.
Three Critical Capacities

Exploring the Critical Capacities for children and young people in greater depth

In order to succeed and thrive, every child should have the opportunity to develop three Critical Capacities: Resilience, Connectedness and Creativity.

Use this page to explore the meaning of these outcomes and discuss the potential impact of your work together.
Collaboration Conditions for collective action

We believe six Collaboration Conditions will create the environment for building Critical Capacities for children and young people.

This tool includes 6 worksheets and an action planning tool to support partnerships to explore the six Collaboration Conditions in greater depth and develop new ways of working together.

How to use this tool in your strategy and/or planning meeting:

**Explore the conditions**
Read through the six Collaboration Conditions together.
Use the questions to reflect together on the importance of these conditions in your community/context.

**Consider your strengths**
Where are we strong and where are we weak? Discuss your unique capabilities in relation to each of the six conditions. Explore areas that need development.

**Consider your priorities**
Use these prompts as a jumping off point to prioritise and plan.

**Our Collaboration Plan**
Create an action plan together. Agree your collective goals, explore the impact you want to see and plan the steps you need to take to achieve this.
Include
Prioritise diversity, equity and inclusion. Integrate co-creation to create opportunity for every child.

Why is a new approach to inclusion important?

Our collective strengths

Where are we strong, where are we weak?

Our priorities

How will you make sure every young person can act and interact?

Approaches, examples and ideas:
Consider this: A socially engaged approach, co-created with local people, driven by the desire to be authentic, relevant and connected: www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/socially-engaged-practice
Read this: Routes to the Future, a co-creation tool from the Future Views Toolkit: https://futureviewstoolkit.com/routes-to-the-future/
How will you ensure children and young people have a voice in their cultural education?

Listen
Promote voice, agency and empowerment. Listen to children and young people and support them to act.

Why is a new approach to listening important?

Where are we strong, where are we weak?

Our collective strengths

Our priorities

Approaches, examples and ideas:
Research this: Creative People and Places aims to work with communities, listening to the needs and ambitions of the area and empowering them to address a common goal: www.creativepeopleplaces.org.uk
Read this: Power Up! By Chrissie Tiller for Creative People and Places: https://www.creativepeopleplaces.org.uk/our-learning/power
Use these questions to reflect on the importance of this Collaboration Condition to support your collective action.

**Situate**
Understand the changing context. Use insight about your local situation.

**Why is a new situated approach important?**

**How will you gain local insight and understanding and harness cultural assets?**

**Where are we strong, where are we weak?**

**Our collective strengths**

**Our priorities**

**Approaches, examples and ideas:**
**Research this:** Rooted in the concept of localism, the ‘area-based curriculum’ supports schools to develop a curriculum in partnership with their communities:

Relate
Engage families and communities. Respond to the unique motivations of your situation.

Why is a new relational approach important?

How will you build and maintain relationships with parents, families and local communities?

Our priorities

Where are we strong, where are we weak?

Our collective strengths

Use these questions to reflect on the importance of this Collaboration Condition to support your collective action.

Appropaches, examples and ideas:
Our collective strengths

Our priorities

Learn
Practice, share and network. Reflect in and on practice, adapt, exchange and build learning.

Why is a learning approach important?

How will you access professional development to support children and young people?

Where are we strong, where are we weak?

Approaches, examples and ideas:
Read this: Inside the Connected Lab: Lawrence Beeko offers some useful tips on how to approach the process of peer learning: https://www.anewdirection.org.uk/blog/inside-the-connected-lab-
Try this: An action research approach: https://capechicago.org/general-overview/

Use these questions to reflect on the importance of this Collaboration Condition to support your collective action.
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**Measure**
Include multiple points for reflection. Analyse data, listen to feedback and measure impact.

**Why is a new approach to evaluation important?**

**Where are we strong, where are we weak?**

**Our collective strengths**

**Our priorities**

**How will you evaluate the impact of cultural education, creative activity and arts engagement on children and young people?**

**Approaches, examples and ideas:**

**Research this:** Artsmark is England’s creative quality standard for schools and education settings:

www.artsmark.org.uk/

**Try this:** The Cultural Learning Evidence Champions Handbook, by The RSA:

Our Collaboration Plan
Planning our goals, impact and collective action

Use this worksheet to create an action plan to articulate the new purpose of your partnership working and inform your next steps.

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<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Timeframes</th>
<th>Resources</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our goals</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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Other resources
A range of further reading and additional resources are included on our website, please visit www.anewdirection.org.uk

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Further information

https://www.anewdirection.org.uk/research
http://culturallearningalliance.org.uk
https://culturecase.org
https://www.anewdirection.org.uk/what-we-do/artsmark
https://www.dur.ac.uk/creativitycommission/
http://www.anewdirection.org.uk/resources/powerful-partnerships-resource-library
Join the discussion
How will you reset?
What has supported your developing partnership?
Keep in touch...

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