THE ARTS IN SCHOOLS

A new conversation on the value of the arts in and beyond schools

Timeline 1982-2022
Introduction Timeline 1982-2022

Our new ‘scene setting’ report, *The arts in schools: a new conversation on the value of the arts in and beyond schools*, looks back at the seminal 1982 Gulbenkian publication, *The Arts in Schools: Principles, practice and provision*. The Report was hugely influential with Local Authorities, which then managed the country’s schools. It paved the way for the arts to be included in England’s first National Curriculum in 1988, and inspired many professional arts organisations to engage with the education sector for the first time.

The new report covers the context in which the original Report was written; the practice and provision that it envisioned; the immediate impact it had; and how society, education policy and the arts have changed over the past 40 years. Over the coming months we plan to consider the wide-ranging themes of the original *The Arts in Schools* (slightly updated for the current context): these span the purpose of education and the role of the arts; primary and secondary provision; cultural capital; creativity; assessment & accountability; equity, diversity and inclusion; arts organisations and artists; and provision beyond schools.

A New Direction will bring education and arts leaders from across the past four decades together with young people to review, interrogate, and debate where we go from here. We are also inviting colleagues from the arts and education sectors to share their thoughts and opinions which will be fed into a final report which will be published by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch) in the autumn.

This 40-year timeline gives an overview of key developments across the political, social, technological, educational, and arts landscape over the decades since the original Report’s publication. (It also includes a few relevant landmark developments from the 1970s.) It provides the context for the new scene-setting report and lists relevant papers, policies, reforms, funding, initiatives and changes which are relevant to the themes of the original Report, and to our new conversation on the value of the arts in and beyond schools today.

It is not exhaustive, and it is hoped the process will be iterative. We are keen to receive contributions, so if you think anything important is missing and should be included, let us know here.

*Pauline Tambling & Sally Bacon*
## 1980s

### Political landscape

- **1976** Support for the Arts in England & Wales, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
  - ‘A rational debate based on the facts’, education speech delivered by James Callaghan at Ruskin College Oxford

- **1978** Warnock Report, *Education in England*, the first comprehensive review of special educational needs (SEN) in England & the basis for subsequent legislation

- **1981** Education Act: makes provision for children with special educational needs, taking forward some of the 1978 Warnock Report recommendations

- **1984** School Examination Council & School Curriculum Development Council replace Schools Council
  - BTEC qualifications introduced (Business & Technology Education Council)

- **1985** Swann report, *Education for All*, proposing that a broadly-based, multi-cultural approach to the curriculum should be adopted by all schools

- **1986** GCSEs replace O Levels & CSEs

### Technology | economy | society

- **1980s**
  - Millennials (b. 1981-96)
  - Home computing grows

- **1982**
  - 12% of school pupils accessing free school meals
  - Channel 4 launch

- **1983** World Wide Web launch

### Reports | publications


- **1982** The Arts in Schools published (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)

- **1983** The Arts Council & Education: a policy statement (ACGB)

- **1989** The Arts in Schools, republished with a new introduction (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)

### Arts education

- **1978** Arts Council of Great Britain (ACGB) sets up an Education Unit for the first time

- **1980s** Start of increase in number of arts organisations with learning teams from 1982, following the Gulbenkian Report’s recommendations, ACGB guidance & new funding programmes
1990s
1990s

**Political landscape**

1990  Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) abolished

1992  Department of Education & Science renamed Department for Education

Education (Schools) Act: Ofsted established

1993  White Paper Choice & Diversity: A New Framework for Schools paved the way for the introduction of the Specialist Schools Programme

Education Act: School Curriculum Assessment Authority created & Special Needs defined

1994  Dearing Review: The National Curriculum & its Assessment, sought to relieve burden on schools following the introduction of the National Curriculum

1995  Departments of Education & Employment merged to create the DfEE

Modern Apprenticeships launched


Tomlinson Report: Inclusive Learning, exploring widening participation specifically for learners with learning difficulties or disabilities

Education Act stating that parents & carers must ensure that all children of compulsory school age (5-16) receive a full-time education that is suitable for their age, ability & aptitude & special educational needs

Tony Blair, Ruskin College lecture, to mark the 20th anniversary of James Callaghan’s 1976 lecture on education which had begun ‘The Great Debate’ about the nature & purpose of public education

Education Act: increased funding to education; reduced class sizes; introduced academies, Sure Start & Qualifications & Assessment Authority

Major cuts in Local Authority discretionary funding affecting music services & discretionary grants for dance & drama students

Dearing Report: Higher Education in the Learning Society, paved the way for tuition fees

New Labour government; PM’s ‘Education, education, education’ speech

Department of National Heritage becomes Department of Culture, Media & Sport

Kennedy Report on widening participation in Further Education

Devolution in the UK, allowing each home nation to pursue its own education agenda

1997  Literacy Hour & Numeracy Hour introduced & literacy targets set for all LAs

Education Action Zones established

Student university tuition fees introduced (£1,000)

1998  Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) introduced to encourage take up of post-16 education

Sure Start introduced for 0-3s, focus on health, wellbeing, & educational attainment in areas of disadvantage (£450m in first 3 years)

David Blunkett launches £180m Music Standards Fund with a pledge that every child will get the chance to learn a musical instrument


The Internet launched

Mobile phone use grows

PlayStation launched

Google founded

**Technology | economy | society**

1990s

1990  The Internet launched

1992  Mobile phone use grows

1994  PlayStation launched

1996  Google founded
1990s

**Arts education | funding**

1991 Gulbenkian Foundation publishes a report calling for an Ombudsman for Children

1994 National Lottery Act & establishment of the ‘good causes’ including the arts

Devolution of Arts Council of Great Britain; Arts Council of England (ACE) established, responsible for investing grant in aid from government & Lottery funding

1996 Awards for Everyone (A4E) established by ACE

1997 Leading through Learning: The English Arts Funding System’s Policy for Education & Training, Arts Council of England

Interim Funding Scheme for funding dance & drama training ACE/DfEE

1998 Creative Industries Mapping Documents, DCMS

National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts (NESTA) launched to promote talent, creativity & innovation in science, technology & the arts

Launch of national network of Clore Learning Spaces with £7m donation

1999 Arts Council Capital investment programme begins with £269m earmarked for 46 building projects

Youth Music established

**Reports | publications**

1997 Arts Organisations & their Education Programmes, Hogarth, Kinder & Harland, National Foundation for Educational Research

1999 All our Futures published by National Advisory Committee on Creative & Cultural Education (NACCE), commissioned by DfEE & DCMS

**Beyond schools | charities**

1994 Russell Group of universities formed

1997 Sutton Trust founded, a UK educational charity aiming to improve social mobility & address educational disadvantage
### 2000s

#### Political landscape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Academies launched as City Academies</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Department for Education renamed Department for Education &amp; Skills (DfES)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schools Achieving Success White Paper leads to Wider Opportunities pledge for all pupils in primary schools to learn a music instrument</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Innovation Unit set up within DfES as part of the measures in the Schools Achieving Success White Paper</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Education Act provides for removal of prefix ‘city’ from City Academies so more schools can join the Academy programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Every Child Matters launched, takes holistic view of the welfare of children, supporting them to be healthy, safe, enjoy &amp; achieve, make a positive contribution &amp; achieve economic wellbeing; far-reaching reform for children’s services with wide-reaching implications for education, health, social services, voluntary &amp; community organisations &amp; other agencies</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>The Children Act, established the role of Children’s Commissioner with responsibility for promoting awareness of the interests &amp; views of children; regulated intervention in the interests of children</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>£6bn Building Schools for the Future programme introduced</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>David Miliband (DfES) &amp; Estelle Morris (DCMS) launch Music Manifesto</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Tomlinson report on 14-19 reform, proposing raising the status of vocational qualifications; reducing the amount of assessment &amp; the number of exams; &amp; simplifying the system (largely not taken forward)</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Apprenticeships, Skills, Children &amp; Learning Act paves the way for the creation of Ofqual in 2010</td>
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#### Technology | economy | society

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2000s</td>
<td>Gen Z (b. 1997-2012)</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>UK Broadband launched</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Xbox launched</td>
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<td>Facebook launched</td>
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<td>Twitter launched</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Spotify launched</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Apple iPhone UK launch</td>
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<td>Netflix streaming service introduced</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Global financial crisis</td>
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### 2000s

#### Arts education | arts sector

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<td>Find Your Talent (£25m) set up</td>
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<td>Creativity, Culture &amp; Education (CCE) introduced, Creative Partnerships gradually transferred to CCE</td>
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<td>UK Review of Effective Government Structures for Children published by Gulbenkian Foundation</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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**The arts in schools: a new conversation **Timeline 1982-2022

**2000s**

**Arts education | arts sector**

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**Beyond schools**

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2010s

Political landscape

2010
- New Coalition government: austerity driving policy making
  - Department for Children, Schools & Families renamed Department for Education
  - EBacc introduced
- Education Maintenance Allowance scrapped
- Student university tuition fees raised from £1,000 to £9,000
- Young Gifted & Talented programme closed
- Building Schools for the Future scrapped
- Academies Bill: Free Schools & Academies programme introduced, with schools to be run by academy trusts, not LAs

2011
- Sure Start closed
- Specialist Schools Programme ended
- ACE/DfE-funded Music Hubs replace local authority music services
- Education Endowment Foundation founded by the Sutton Trust, as lead charity in partnership with Impetus, with a founding grant of £125m from DfE

2012
- Government funding for Sing Up stops

2013
- Revised National Curriculum introduced
- My Place (youth centres programme) closed

2014
- Universal infant free school meals announced

2015
- New Conservative government

2016
- Progress 8 & Attainment 8 introduced in England

2017
- DCMS renamed as Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
- DfE introduces Opportunity Areas scheme

2019
- Cultural Capital introduced in new Ofsted Framework

Technology | economy | society

2010s
- Gen Alpha (b. 2013-)

2010
- Instagram launched

2016
- Vote to leave the European Union

2017
- Me Too movement growth
- TikTok launched

2019
- 190+ cultural organisations declare a Climate Emergency
## 2010s

### 2010s

#### Arts education | arts sector

**2010**
- ACE launches 10-year strategic framework, *Great Art for Everyone*, with 5 goals, including goal 5: *Children & Young People*
- Cultural Learning Alliance (CLA) founded, supported by Clore Duffield, Gulbenkian, Esmée Fairbairn, Foyle & Paul Hamlyn Foundations

**2011**
- Find Your Talent scheme closed
- ACE publishes new strategic aims for children & young people
- Bridge organisations established by ACE
- Creative Partnership closed, having reached 1m children, 90,000 teachers & 8,000 projects, 2002-10

**2012**
- ACE takes on responsibility for *In Harmony*

**2013**
- National Plan for cultural education published by DCMS & DfE (without delivery framework, investment or infrastructure attached)

**2014**
- Creative Industries Federation launched

#### Reports | initiatives

**2011**
- *ImagineNation: the case for cultural learning* published, together with *Key Research Findings* (Cultural Learning Alliance)
- *Music Education in England* review published (Henley Report), commissioned by DfE & DCMS
- *The Importance of Music: A National Plan for Music Education* (DfE & DCMS)

**2012**
- *Cultural Education in England* (Darren Henley) commissioned by DfE & DCMS
- *Quality & Inequality in Music Education 2008-11*, published by Ofsted

**2013**
- *Cultural Education in England* (Darren Henley) commissioned by DfE & DCMS

**2014**
- *Step by step: arts policy & young people 1944-2014* (Culture at Kings, KCL)
- *Enriching Britain: Culture, Creativity & Growth — Warwick Commission report on cultural value*

**2015**
- *ImagineNation: the value of cultural learning*, new edition launched by the Cultural Learning Alliance, together with updated *Key Research Findings*

**2016**
- *Culture White Paper*, the first in 50 years, proposing that all publicly funded arts organisations increase access for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds
- Gulbenkian Foundation launches *Enquiry into the Civic Role of Arts Organisations*
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation introduces *Teacher Development Fund*

**2017**
- *ImagineNation: the value of cultural learning*, new edition launched by the Cultural Learning Alliance, together with updated *Key Research Findings*

**2018**
- *Time to Listen* report published by the RSC, Tate & Nottingham University

**2019**
- Durham Commission on Creativity & Education (1st report)
- UNESCO’s Futures of Education initiative: rethinking education to shape the future

### Beyond schools

**2010-2019**
- An estimated £400m axed from youth services; more than 760 youth centres closed

**2019**
- *Augar Review of post-18 education in England*
- Facilitating Subjects list (excluding arts subjects) scrapped by the Russell Group
2020s

Political landscape

2021
New Curriculum for Wales published (with a very different purpose to England’s)

2022
Levelling Up White Paper sets out government social & economic programme to spread opportunity, & cultural engagement, more equally across the UK

English government publishes teacher guidance on avoiding political bias for the first time

Changes to HE system announced in response to 2019 Augar Review

Opportunities for All Education White Paper: focus on literacy & numeracy; no changes to curriculum or assessment; sets out timeframe for new music education plan (2022) & a cultural education plan (2023), with DCMS & ACE

SEND Green Paper

Technology | economy | society

2020s

2020
Gen Alpha (b. 2013–)

2020
Global Covid-19 pandemic: school closures; learning moves online; public exam cancellations 2020 & 2021

2020
George Floyd death & resulting racial justice movement

2022
20.8% of pupils accessing free school meals

Increase in incidence of child mental health problems

Covid restrictions end

Arts education | arts sector

2020
Let’s Create, new ACE 2020-30 strategy published

SHAPE introduced (Social sciences, humanities & the arts for people & the economy), led by LSE, British Academy, Academy of Social Sciences & ACE

2022
PISA Creative thinking framework introduced

2023
Bridge organisation infrastructure ceases

Reports | initiatives

2020
Lit in Colour (Penguin Books UK & the Runnymede Trust) reveals that fewer than 1% of students at GCSE study a book by a writer of colour

2021
Skills for Every Young Person, published by the Youth Unemployment Lords Select Committee

A Great Education for Every Child: Blueprint for a Fairer Education System (ASCL)

Rethinking Assessment movement launched (Edge Foundation)

Times Education Commission launched, reporting in 2022

2022
Big Change launches Subject to Change: rethinking the education system

Beyond schools

2020
T Levels launched as new practical equivalents to A Levels

2022
Changes to HE funding system announced following the 2019 Augar Review
### Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>ACE</td>
<td>Arts Council England (post-1994)</td>
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<td>ACGB</td>
<td>Arts Council of Great Britain (pre-1994)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>A New Direction</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASCL</td>
<td>Association of School &amp; College Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>BTECs</td>
<td>Business &amp; Technology Education Council qualifications</td>
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<td>Creativity, Culture &amp; Education</td>
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<td>CLA</td>
<td>Cultural Learning Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSEs</td>
<td>Certificate of Secondary education (ended 1987)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCMS</td>
<td>Department for Digital, Culture, Media &amp; Sport (Digital added in 2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DoES</td>
<td>Department of Education &amp; Science (1964–1992)</td>
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<td>DfEE</td>
<td>Department for Education &amp; Employment (1995-2001)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DfES</td>
<td>Department for Education &amp; Skills (2001-2007)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCSF</td>
<td>Department for Children, Schools &amp; Families (2007-2010)</td>
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<td>EMA</td>
<td>Education Maintenance Allowance</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPQ</td>
<td>Extended Project Qualification</td>
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<td>GCSE</td>
<td>General Certificate of Secondary Education (from 1987)</td>
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<td>HE</td>
<td>Higher Education</td>
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<td>ILEA</td>
<td>Inner London Education Authority</td>
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<td>KCL</td>
<td>King’s College London</td>
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<td>LAs</td>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
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<td>LCEPs</td>
<td>Local Cultural Education Partnerships</td>
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<td>NACCCE</td>
<td>National Advisory Committee on Creative &amp; Cultural Education</td>
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<td>NESTA</td>
<td>National Endowment for Science, Technology &amp; the Arts (now Nesta)</td>
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<td>NSEAD</td>
<td>National Society for Education in Art &amp; Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ofqual</td>
<td>The Office of Qualifications &amp; Examinations Regulation</td>
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<td>The Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services &amp; Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>QCA</td>
<td>Qualifications &amp; Curriculum Authority</td>
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<td>RSC</td>
<td>Royal Shakespeare Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATs</td>
<td>Standard Assessment Tests</td>
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<td>SEND</td>
<td>Special Education Needs &amp; Disabilities</td>
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</table>
Pauline Tambling and Sally Bacon, authors of *The arts in schools: a new conversation*, have worked for many years in the arts and cultural sector as practitioners, policy makers, funders and trustees with a special interest in education. In 1983 Pauline set up and ran the Royal Opera’s Education Programme and her post was funded in its first year by the Gulbenkian Foundation following *The Arts in Schools* report. In the 1990s Sally worked as Education Officer at the Poetry Society, where she ran the Poets in Schools scheme cited in *The Arts in Schools*.

**A New Direction** is an award-winning non-profit working towards a world where all children and young people achieve their creative potential. Established in 2008, the organisation is a specialist cultural education agency with a mission to enhance the capacity and agency of children and young people in London to own their creativity, shape culture, and achieve their creative potential. It does this by working with a diverse range of partners, making connections, sharing practice, influencing change, improving the ecology that surrounds children and young people, and by providing real and transformative opportunities — from childhood, through school years and into employment. [www.anewdirection.org.uk](http://www.anewdirection.org.uk)

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**About the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch)**

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is an international charitable foundation based in Portugal, with offices in London and Paris. It acts in the fields of arts, social welfare, education and science. Based in London, the UK Branch is focused on building coalitions to tackle complex global problems. It looks ahead, thinking globally and acting locally, to create the conditions for change by connecting across borders of all kinds — national, cultural, organisational, disciplinary and social. The UK Branch prioritises the vulnerable and underserved in the UK and elsewhere. [www.gulbenkian.pt/uk-branch](http://www.gulbenkian.pt/uk-branch)

**The Arts in Schools**

**The Arts in Schools (1982)**
The original Report can be found here: [https://gulbenkian.pt/uk-branch/publication/the-arts-in-schools/](https://gulbenkian.pt/uk-branch/publication/the-arts-in-schools/)

**The arts in schools: a new conversation (2022)**
Over the coming months A New Direction will bring education and arts leaders from across the past four decades together with young people to review, interrogate, and debate where we go from here. Colleagues from across the arts and education sectors are invited to share their thoughts and opinions which will be fed into a final report which will be published by the end of the year.

A New Direction is leading a new conversation on the value of the arts in and beyond schools, and is seeking recollections from anyone involved in or influenced by the original *The Arts in Schools*, together with reflections on what has been lost and gained over the past four decades, and thoughts on what changes are needed now.

Do get in touch with your responses by 31 July [here](http://here).

Together we can forge a new conversation on the value of the arts for children and young people in and beyond schools. [#ArtsinSchools](http://#ArtsinSchools)
This is A New Direction project funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch) and delivered in partnership with the Bridge Organisations:

Artwork | South East
Arts Connect | West Midlands
Curious Minds | North West
Festival Bridge | East
The Mighty Creatives | East Midlands
Real Ideas Organisation | South West
Royal Opera House Bridge | East
Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums | North East
We are IVE | Yorkshire & the Humber