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# THE ARTS IN SCHOOLS

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

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## 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**

**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.**

80s

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**1980s**

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# 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

**1988** Education Reform Act: based on the principles of making schools more competitive (marketisation) & giving parents choice. National Curriculum & Local Management of Schools introduced. SATs introduced

**1988** First National Curriculum programmes of study, including for arts subjects

**1989**

## 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

**1978** H.Lashley, T.Rose, *Cultural Pluralism: Implications for Teaching Arts in Schools*, Commission for Racial Equalit

**1981** *The Arts Council & Education: A Consultative Document* (ACGB)

**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

90s

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**1990s**

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# 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

**1996** Dearing Review of Qualifications for 16-19-Year-Olds

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

**1997** 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

**1997**  
**1998** Devolution in the UK, allowing each home nation to pursue its own education agenda

**1998** Literacy Hour & Numeracy Hour introduced & literacy targets set for all LAs

Education Action Zones established

Student university tuition fees introduced (£1,000)

**1999** 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

## Technology | economy | society

**1990s** Millennials (b. 1981-1996) / Gen Z (b. 1997-2012)

The Internet launched

Mobile phone use grows

**1994** PlayStation launched

**1998** 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 (NACCCE), 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

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**2000s**

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# 2000s

## Political landscape

- 2000** Academies launched as City Academies

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- 2001** Department for Education renamed Department for Education & Skills (DfES)  
  
*Schools Achieving Success* White Paper leads to Wider Opportunities pledge for all pupils in primary schools to learn a music instrument

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- 2002** Innovation Unit set up within DfES as part of the measures in the *Schools Achieving Success* White Paper  
  
Education Act provides for removal of prefix 'city' from City Academies so more schools can join the Academy programme

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- 2003** Every Child Matters launched, takes holistic view of the welfare of children, supporting them to be healthy, safe, enjoy & achieve, make a positive contribution & achieve economic wellbeing; far-reaching reform for children's services with wide-reaching implications for education, health, social services, voluntary & community organisations & other agencies

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- 2004** The Children Act, established the role of Children's Commissioner with responsibility for promoting awareness of the interests & views of children; regulated intervention in the interests of children

- £6bn Building Schools for the Future programme introduced

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- David Miliband (DfES) & Estelle Morris (DCMS) launch Music Manifesto

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- Tomlinson report on 14-19 reform, proposing raising the status of vocational qualifications; reducing the amount of assessment & the number of exams; & simplifying the system (largely not taken forward)

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- 2006** Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs) introduced to be taken alongside A Levels

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- 2007** Department for Education & Skills split into two: Department for Children, Schools & Families (DfCSF), & Department of Innovation, Universities & Skills  
  
*Ajegbo Report, Diversity & Citizenship*  
  
Sing Up created as a £40m government programme to reinstate singing in primary schools

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- 2008** Education & Skills Act raised the education leaving age from 16 to 18

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- 2009** Apprenticeships, Skills, Children & Learning Act paves the way for the creation of Ofqual in 2010

## Technology | economy | society

- 2000s** Gen Z (b. 1997-2012)

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- 2000** UK Broadband launched

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- 2001** Xbox launched

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- 2004** Facebook launched

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- 2005** YouTube launched

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- 2006** Twitter launched  
  
Spotify launched

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- 2007** Apple iPhone UK launch  
  
Netflix streaming service introduced

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- 2008** Global financial crisis

# 2000s

## Arts education | arts sector

**2000s** ACE expands its work with young people

**2001** Artsmark founded by ACE: 377 schools recognised in its first year

**2002** Creative Partnerships introduced as an ACE flagship creative learning programme

**2003** Grants for the Arts launched by ACE for the benefit of local communities

**2005** Arts Award introduced

Creative & Cultural Skills established

Major arts capital projects for children open: The Egg in Bath; Seven Stories in Newcastle; & the Unicorn Theatre in London

**2006** STEAM movement develops internationally

**2008** Find Your Talent (£25m) set up

In Harmony launched by Schools Minister

**2009** Creativity, Culture & Education (CCE) introduced, Creative Partnerships gradually transferred to CCE

National Arts & Design Saturday Club introduced

NT Live launched to bring British theatre to cinema screens

## Reports | publications

**2000** Sutton Trust *Entry to Leading Universities*, highlighting private school advantage

**2001** *UK Review of Effective Government Structures for Children* published by Gulbenkian Foundation

*£2.68: Survey of art & design resources in primary & secondary schools* reveals level of annual school spending on art & design materials (CDF + NSEAD)

**2003** *Space for Learning: a handbook for creative learning environments* (CDF + QCA, ACE & others)

**2006** Roberts Review, *Nurturing Creativity in Young People*, jointly commissioned by DCMS & DfES

**2009** *Get it: The Power of Cultural Learning*, feedback & recommendations from a public consultation by the Culture & Learning Consortium (led by CDF & including the Gulbenkian Foundation & others)

*McMaster Report, Supporting Excellence in the Arts*

## Beyond schools

**2008** Myplace launched: £240m to build world-class youth centres as hubs for young people to access a wide range of advice & support services in disadvantaged areas, transforming services for young people

10s

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**2010s**

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# 2010s

## Political landscape

- 2010** New Coalition government: austerity driving policy making

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- Department for Children, Schools & Families renamed Department for Education

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- EBacc introduced

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- Education Maintenance Allowance scrapped

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- Student university tuition fees raised from £1,000 to £9,000

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- Young Gifted & Talented programme closed

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- Building Schools for the Future scrapped

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- Academies Bill: Free Schools & Academies programme introduced, with schools to be run by academy trusts, not LAs

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- 2011** Sure Start closed

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- Specialist Schools Programme ended

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- ACE/DfE-funded Music Hubs replace local authority music services

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- 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

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- 2013** Revised National Curriculum introduced

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- My Place (youth centres programme) closed

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- 2014** Universal infant free school meals announced

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- 2015** New Conservative government

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- 2016** Progress 8 & Attainment 8 introduced in England

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- 2017** DCMS renamed as Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

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- DfE introduces Opportunity Areas scheme

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- 2019** Cultural Capital introduced in new Ofsted Framework

## Technology | economy | society

- 2010s** Gen Alpha (b. 2013-)

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- 2010** Instagram launched

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- 2016** Vote to leave the European Union

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- 2017** Me Too movement growth

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- TikTok launched

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- 2019** 190+ cultural organisations declare a Climate Emergency

# 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

**2015** ACE Cultural Education Challenge

Local Cultural Education Partnerships (LCEPs) developed with DfE to improve cultural education for children & young people (now 140 LCEPs)

**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

**2019** Year 3 Steve McQueen project unveiled at Tate, with AND & Art Angel

## 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

**2014** *Step by step: arts policy & young people 1944-2014* (Culture at Kings, KCL)

**2015** *Enriching Britain: Culture, Creativity & Growth* – Warwick Commission report on cultural value

*Space for Learning: a new handbook for creating inspirational learning spaces* in museums & galleries (CDF + ACE, Foyle Foundation & others)

**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

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**2020s**

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# 2020s

## Political landscape

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

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

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

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- Changes to HE system announced in response to 2019 Augar Review

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- 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

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- SEND Green Paper

## Technology | economy | society

- 2020s** Gen Alpha (b. 2013-)

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

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- 2021**

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- 2020** George Floyd death & resulting racial justice movement

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- 2022** 20.8% of pupils accessing free school meals

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- Increase in incidence of child mental health problems

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- Covid restrictions end

## Arts education | arts sector

- 2020** *Lets Create*, new ACE 2020-30 strategy published

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

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- 2022** PISA Creative thinking framework introduced

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- 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

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

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

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- Rethinking Assessment movement launched (Edge Foundation)

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- Times Education Commission launched, reporting in 2022

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

## Beyond schools

- 2020** T Levels launched as new practical equivalents to A Levels

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- 2022** Changes to HE funding system announced following the 2019 Augar Review

# Abbreviations

<b>ACE</b>	Arts Council England (post-1994)	<b>GCSE</b>	General Certificate of Secondary Education (from 1987)
<b>ACGB</b>	Arts Council of Great Britain (pre-1994)	<b>HE</b>	Higher Education
<b>AND</b>	A New Direction	<b>ILEA</b>	Inner London Education Authority
<b>ASCL</b>	Association of School & College Leadership	<b>KCL</b>	King's College London
<b>BTECs</b>	Business & Technology Education Council qualifications	<b>LAs</b>	Local Authorities
<b>CCE</b>	Creativity, Culture & Education	<b>LCEPs</b>	Local Cultural Education Partnerships
<b>CDF</b>	Clare Duffield Foundation	<b>NACCCE</b>	National Advisory Committee on Creative & Cultural Education
<b>CLA</b>	Cultural Learning Alliance	<b>NESTA</b>	National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts (now Nesta)
<b>CSEs</b>	Certificate of Secondary education (ended 1987)	<b>NSEAD</b>	National Society for Education in Art & Design
<b>DCMS</b>	Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (Digital added in 2017)	<b>Ofqual</b>	The Office of Qualifications & Examinations Regulation
<b>DoES</b>	Department of Education & Science (1964–1992)	<b>Ofsted</b>	The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services & Skills
<b>DfE</b>	Department for Education (1992-1995 & 2010-)	<b>QCA</b>	Qualifications & Curriculum Authority
<b>DfEE</b>	Department for Education & Employment (1995-2001)	<b>RSC</b>	Royal Shakespeare Company
<b>DfES</b>	Department for Education & Skills (2001-2007)	<b>SATs</b>	Standard Assessment Tests
<b>DCSF</b>	Department for Children, Schools & Families (2007-2010)	<b>SEND</b>	Special Education Needs & Disabilities
<b>EMA</b>	Education Maintenance Allowance		
<b>EPQ</b>	Extended Project Qualification		



**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)

### **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/>

#### **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**.

Together we can forge a new conversation on the value of the arts for children and young people in and beyond schools. **#ArtsinSchools**

**This is A New Direction project funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch) and delivered in partnership with the Bridge Organisations:**

**Artswork** | 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



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