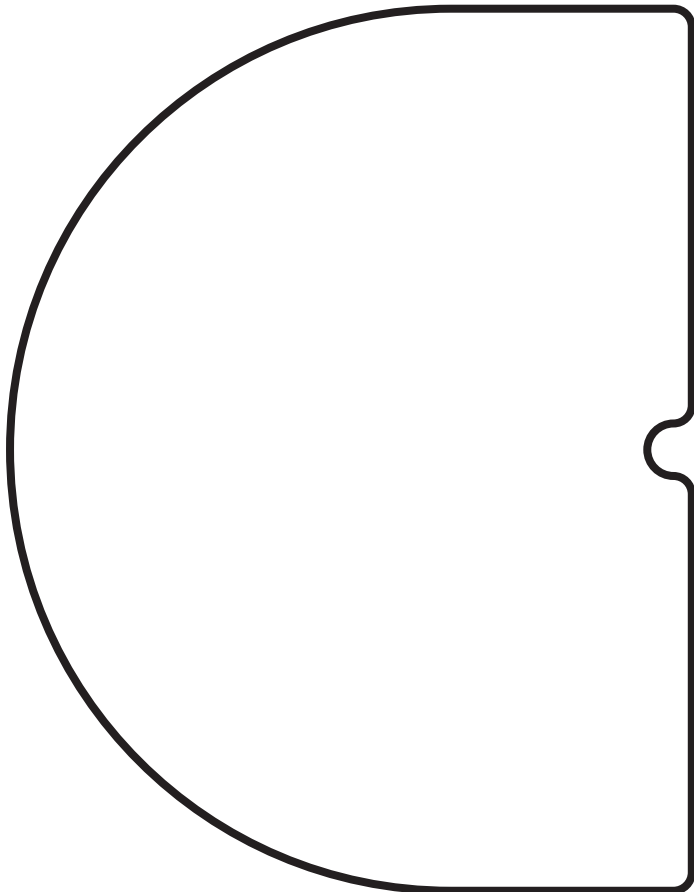


The City  
Centre



Learning  
Programme

17/18

# About us

The City Centre is a new public space in the heart of the City and the home of the City of London's official architectural model.

New London Architecture (NLA) is the leading membership body for London's built environment providing an unrivalled network for building contacts, accessing market intelligence and influencing the shape of the capital.

The Learning programme is a pioneering new collaboration between NLA and The City Centre which is being developed to inspire the next generation about London's built environment and the huge range of careers available.

We engage young people through active participation; offering school visits, workshops and extracurricular projects for young people.

The Learning programme promotes STEM careers in the built environment to young people, working to combat the current skills shortage in the property and development sector.

The Construction Industry Council's Blueprint for Change diversity report (2015) states;

'More people are leaving the industry due to age retirement than are joining it. 25% of the workforce are under 35'

We are committed to addressing this crucial issue in an industry set to grow by 2.9 % by 2019. We utilise our scale models of London, temporary exhibition programmes and key contacts from The City Centre and across NLA's membership to encourage a diverse range of talented young people to pursue study and career options in the industry.

# Schools Programme

The City Centre and NLA models and exhibitions are freely accessible to schools for self-guided visits during normal opening hours.

In addition we offer a series of bespoke taught sessions for Secondary School pupils in KS3-5 which use the model as a starting point for teaching about themes, issues and related skills in the built environment. This programme is generously sponsored by The Sackler Trust and other industry supporters which currently enables us to offer all our workshops for free.

Sessions are linked to the National Curriculum across art & design, history and geography. We also offer built environment careers insight workshops workplace visits, site tours, model talks and tours of the city.

Our sessions can be tailored to the specific needs of a class including children with special educational needs. Schools can choose whether to attend sessions at NLA or The City Centre and a morning or an afternoon session.

Sessions that we currently offer include;

- Architectural model-making
- Introduction to digital design
- Introduction to scale-drawing
- Architectural design study day
- The Architecture of Roman London study day
- Dual-site Regeneration study day with the Museum of London Docklands

We work with a mixture of freelance educators and industry volunteers to deliver these sessions on request to schools.

We welcome any school group but particularly target state schools in the City of London, Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets.

In 2016 The City Centre welcomed 980 pupils from 30 schools to a variety of self-guided visits, talks, tours and taught sessions. Our ambition is to build on the success of this first pilot year by introducing similar engagement at NLA in 2017.

# Youth Programme

The City Centre and NLA aim to turn young peoples initial interest in the built environment into a life-long career by nurturing their talents, enhancing their skills and expanding their knowledge of the property and development industry.

One of the key barriers for engaging with young people in secondary schools is being able to get them out of school with timetable and exam constraints. A way to combat this is to offer a youth programme with dynamic, exciting and free opportunities for them to take part in out of school hours.

The youth programme was launched in July 2016 with a week-long Summer Academy which provided 15 young Londoners aged 14-19yrs with a rare free opportunity to take part in an intensive week-long built environment focussed holiday course. Responding to an overarching design brief and working with a range of professionals who ran the workshops they completed a range of tasks including scale model-making, digital design and a final presentation delivered to a team of industry judges. The week also included trips to interesting venues in the City and talks from professionals about their own routes into the industry.

Youth workshops now happen at The City Centre bi-monthly on Saturdays and thanks to industry sponsors continue to be free of charge for the young people to attend. Recent themes have included design your future workspace' and 'bridge building challenge.

We have welcomed 37 young people to The City Centre in 2016. The programme will extend to NLA in July 2017 and we will be offering the opportunity to design and construct a pavilion for London Festival of Architecture in June working with architectural practise AHMM.

# Learning Partners

We work with organisations across The City Centre's network and NLA's membership who represent the full range of opportunities available to young people. From architects to urban planners, engineers to construction contractors, many different companies have already contributed to our work by allowing their employees to volunteer on our programmes as built environment careers ambassadors. This can involve anything from giving a talk at careers insight sessions to helping us run a youth workshop.

In 2017 we will be actively seeking new partners who want to contribute to our work both through sponsorship and volunteering. We will be running a series of themed workshops across both our schools and youth programmes working in partnership with relevant organisations. These workshops will be advertised to schools and young people who can book them free of charge. They cover different themes such as 'model-making', 'urban-planning' and 'what is structural engineering'. For each workshop we will work with a specific industry partner who will help us to design and deliver the sessions.

NLA members interested in becoming Learning partners can have an initial conversation with the Education Manager and be put on our monthly e-newsletter list to receive details of current opportunities as they arise. Full training and support is provided.



“It’s given me a greater insight into what to expect in a career as an architect, planner or engineer and it has been a great chance to see behind the scenes in these industries”

Zulakha Asif, Summer Academy Student

“An extremely impressive range of activities and outcomes, fantastic visuals and excellent knowledge. The session was well-pitched and really engaged our learners throughout”

Y7 Teacher from Pimlico Academy

