

# Brief for consultancy services to undertake a developmental evaluation of, and produce an advocacy resource for, Artworks' STEAM School Network Programme 2016/17

## 1. Summary

In 2016/17 Artswork launched a new programme to explore how collaborative, creative approaches might link and enrich the arts; science; technology; engineering and maths curriculum by providing a funded opportunity for teachers to develop and realise a STEAM programme across local networks of schools.

It is this work which we wish to evaluate in order to explore the effectiveness of this way of working, to identify examples of best practice, to understand success factors, to recognise innovative approaches to curriculum delivery, and to inform and develop our work with schools, the arts and cultural sector and Cultural Education Partnerships, going forward.

#### 2. About Artswork

Artswork empowers children and young people through arts and culture to find their voice, become skilled leaders and achieve their aspirations. Building strategic alliances, Artswork specialises in advocating for change and delivering positive outcomes for children and young people through local, national and international partnerships. (See Appendix below for further description)

### 3. About STEAM

STEAM is an approach to education and learning underpinned by the progressive integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths.

'STEAM is an initiative that aims to foster innovation by integrating the Arts with technological and scientific thinking. The future world of work will demand greater global mobility and flexibility amongst employees who will need to be more adaptable and agile. In an environment where a 'job for life' is unlikely, creativity from the Arts is a critical skill that can enhance education and growth in the industries of science, technology, engineering and maths' – Cultural Learning Alliance STEM + Arts = STEAM June 2014

Our primary aim in investing in this programme is to enable new and innovative approaches to curriculum delivery through active collaboration between schools, cultural organisations and STEM partners that are sustainable, scalable, where impact could be measured, and where good practice could be shared across organisations both regionally and nationally.









## 4. Overall Purpose of this contract Artswork wishes to appoint consultancy services to work with us:

- To evaluate our STEAM Network Investment Programme through a common evaluation framework, to identify examples of best practice, to understand success factors, and to highlight innovative approaches to curriculum delivery.
- To develop a high spec resource drawing on case studies which captures the findings and is suitable for sharing across schools, Cultural Education Partnerships and relevant sector bodies.

The evaluation should address the following questions

- a) What can we learn from this investment programme to inform our work and that of our partners going forward?
- b) How effective are schools in evaluating this type of work themselves?
- c) Are there examples of innovative curriculum design & delivery that are sustainable, scalable and transferable?
- d) Has the programme improved cultural and STEAM leadership within schools?
- e) Has the embedding of Arts Award and Artsmark added value to the programmes?
- f) To what extent did Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and peer-to-peer learning delivered as part of programmes promote individual and collective professional development? To what extent has it built skills, knowledge and understanding across participating schools and improved practice in STEAM delivery, quality arts and cultural learning?
- g) Are there transferable exemplars of collaboration between educational, arts, cultural and STEM professionals and organisations?
- h) Have new opportunities been created for children and young people to bring creativity and imagination to their learning and to embody Arts Council England's Quality Principles?
- i) How well did the programme meet the criteria and priorities for all partners especially STEM partners?
- j) What specific factors encouraged the participation and successful engagement of formerly nonengaged schools in this programme?









#### 5. Outcomes

As a result of this evaluation, Artswork would expect to be able to use the findings and conclusions:

- To inform its current and future work and associated plans to build and strengthen STEAM activity
  and cultural leadership within schools, cultural organisations and Cultural Education Partnerships
- To share innovative practice to inform the work of Schools and the Arts and Cultural sectors including Cultural Education Partnerships and STEM partners
- To identify and share ways to build increasingly effective and high quality STEAM education in schools

## 6. Deliverables required

- Interim report provided October 2017
- Final report –January 2018
- Final Resource/Case study January 2018

## 7. Management and reporting arrangements

The appointed consultant will be contracted by Artswork. They will be expected to work closely with Strategic Manager Ruth Taylor as well as, where relevant, members of Artswork's School Liaison Manager Team, Communications Team and the Programme and Contracts Manager.

## 8. Confidentiality

The appointed organisation(s) or individual(s) are required to maintain the confidentiality of all proprietary or privileged information to which they may be party to in the course of the contract and they are expected to work on behalf of Artswork.

## 9. Experience required

It is expected that the appointee will be able to command the respect of those they are working with and will have considerable expertise and the following essential skills and experience:

- Considerable experience in collection, interrogation and use of data to gain intelligence
- Excellent written and verbal skills with the ability to communicate effectively with a range of stakeholders in a range of settings and in report writing
- Considerable experience and knowledge of current policy and the strategic framework for Cultural and STEM Education, within both formal and informal children and young people's contexts
- Excellent IT skills
- Good understanding and knowledge of Arts Award and Artsmark









#### 10. Timetable

• Closing date for responses: 12:00 pm 21 April 2017

Interviews: Week beginning 24 April 2017

Consultant selected and work begins: Week beginning 2 May 2017

• Interim Report: End of October 2017

Final report and advocacy resource: End of January 2018

• End of contract: End of January 2018

#### 11. Fee

An amount in the region of £5000 is available for this work – inclusive of VAT and all expenses.

## 12. Next Steps

Those interested in working on this evaluation should provide a quotation documentation which should not exceed 1,000 words (excluding any annexes) and should include:

- A response to the evaluation brief and outlining how you propose to deliver it
- A timetable for delivery
- A breakdown of days and costs related to management against the planned work including VAT
- A detailed expenditure budget to provide details of all anticipated costs connected with the
  delivery of the brief. These should be described in sufficient detail to allow assessment of
  reasonable costs and more generally the efficiency of the proposed approach.

If you are planning to involve other members of a team, please provide a statement of the number of days/hours each team member will work on the evaluation along with their job title and daily rates (if applicable). The following should be included as appendices:

- CVs and details of the personnel proposed to carry out the work
- Examples of previous relevant work
- Names and contact details of two referees at least one of these should have knowledge of your work in a freelance capacity
- Details of your professional indemnity and public liability insurance

To discuss the brief or for more information, please contact <a href="mailto:ruth@artswork.org.uk">ruth@artswork.org.uk</a>
Please send your proposal to <a href="mailto:donna@artswork.org.uk">donna@artswork.org.uk</a> no later than 12:00 Friday 21 April 2017









## **Appendix**

Since April 2012, Arts Council England has been funding a national network of ten Bridge organisations to help meet its goal of ensuring every child and young person has the opportunity to experience the richness of arts and culture. Chosen for their experience and expertise in connecting schools, children and young people with arts and culture, the Bridge network is helping to create a more coherent and focused arts and cultural offer for children and young people, schools and communities. Artswork is the South East Bridge organisation.

http://www.artswork.org.uk/programmes/south-east-bridge/

http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/children-and-young-people/working-partnership

Over the past four years Artswork has undertaken a number of different programmes to support schools in building strategic and sustainable links and partnerships with arts and cultural organisations. These have ranged from supporting school arts and cultural champions, enabling networks of teachers to share practice, and from 2014/15 investing in 11 Teaching School Alliances to work with arts and cultural partners to build new and innovative business models.

21 March 2017







