

Lead Creative Agents

Lead Creative Agents can be attached to *Enquiry, Change* or *Schools of Creativity* within the schools programme strands. However, it is essential that those attached to *Schools of Creativity* have the enhanced skills of a Lead Creative Agent.

In addition to the *Creative Agent Service Specification* and the ability to operate confidently across the competencies outlined in the *Creative Agent Competency Framework*, it is desirable that a Lead Creative should be a creative professional with at least 2 years experience of working with schools in an external support and advisory capacity, either as a Creative Partnerships Creative Agent or similar role.

Lead Creative Agents should also be able to look beyond the school and contribute to shifting learning from rapid change in schools and outwards to the system as a whole. They should confidently be able to make use of the Creative Partnerships *National Evaluation Framework* and facilitate the active involvement of partner schools in the use of a broad range of evaluation methodologies.

Lead Creative Agents should function as a critical friend, able to challenge towards innovation, to enable the school to push their creative thinking and practice further, so that the school becomes a truly risk taking environment, led by the needs and interests of the learner and continually renewed by new partners, new experiences and new ways of working.

Schools of Creativity and Lead Creative Agents

Schools of Creativity require Lead Creative Agents with a high level of knowledge and skills to support the school in its role to innovate, influence and lead practice both locally and nationally, so that the *Schools of Creativity* group can become a powerful lever for transforming schools and the education system.

They should strongly model the Creative Partnerships values of questioning, connecting, imagining and reflecting. The questioning role is particularly important for a *School of Creativity*.

Some of the qualities we require are:

- A deep knowledge and experience of school change through leadership, teaching and deep learning across the curriculum
- Ability to develop strategic partnerships, working closely with school leaders and key stakeholders
- Ability and confidence in responding to rapid change in the education and cultural landscape

- Extensive knowledge of the creative and cultural sector locally, nationally and ideally internationally
- Operating with a high degree of understanding of reflective practice, enquiry-based learning and evaluation methodologies
- Clear understanding and commitment to the role of pupils as co-constructors of learning and child-centred learning
- An exemplar model for the Creative Partnerships values of questioning, connecting, imagining and reflecting

The principal function of the *Schools of Creativity* Lead Creative Agent is to support and challenge the school to:

- generate new ideas and facilitate the development of genuinely innovative practice which is disciplined, has a clear sense of purpose and value within and beyond the *School of Creativity* itself
- seek out collaboration and engage dynamically in partnerships with a wide range of creative partners who can explore new ideas and ways of working, extending existing thought and practice
- sensitively and appropriately introduce new and possibly contentious ideas that push schools out of their comfort zone, challenging and questioning established practice
- provide leadership and facilitate creative programmes in and with a designated local network of schools
- ensure the creative programme retains its focus on the agreed areas of enquiry and support a cycle of action and reflection to analyse and refine the enquiry focus
- share learning more widely and become a resource for the area CP programme and other schools in the locality interested in creativity
- lead and influence practice as part of a national networked learning community
- advocate for embedding creative teaching and learning methodologies to key partners of influence across the education system

Schools of Creativity will receive a grant from CCE to cover Creative Agent fees as well as a programme budget. The Lead Creative Agent will be engaged and paid by the *School of Creativity*.

Lead Creative Agents will have the opportunity to attend national *Schools of Creativity* events and meetings where appropriate and have access to specific training, network and development opportunities.

CCE will provide national network and development support for the SoC Creative Agent.