

Arts and Learning Update

Education, Children and Families Committee

13 September 2011

1 Purpose of report

1.1 This report provides an update on Arts and Learning since August 2010.

2 Summary

This report sets out the key areas for which Arts and Learning has responsibility and provides an update of activity since August 2010.

3 Main report

3.1 Arts and Learning has responsibility for developing the arts and creativity within and across the education service. There is a team of three principal officers, whose responsibilities include the Instrumental Music Service, Pilton Video and the Youth Music Initiative. The team also includes a Specialist Teacher of Drama and a Dance Development Officer. The budget for the City of Edinburgh Music School at Broughton is held by Arts and Learning.

Instrumental Music Service

3.2 The Instrumental Music Service is the largest in Scotland. 2 Principal Officers currently manage the service and 76 instructors teach lessons and provide instruction and guidance. Edinburgh continues to offer free tuition thereby reducing barriers to accessing music education. Edinburgh is one of only 7 local authorities to provide these opportunities at no charge to families. Lessons are available on a range of orchestral instruments and every school offers quality tuition and performance opportunities from P4/5 through to S6. Skilled instructors teach in small groups, and individual lessons support Higher and Advanced Higher candidates. Instructors also help sustain a wide range of school and central orchestras, choirs and ensembles. Pupils have regular opportunities for working with others and performing in public which include:

- the annual Fanfare concert
- the annual Childline concert
- numerous smaller concerts in a range of community venues
- performances at various events usually by invitation
- hundreds of school and cluster musical events and concerts

- 3.3 Aligned with Curriculum for Excellence, lessons and concerts provide opportunities for achievement and attainment. They also contribute to the musical ethos of schools and communities and to the cultural landscape of Edinburgh.
- 3.4 Currently around 5,000 pupils receive tuition and in 2011, 128 Higher pupils and 53 Advanced Higher pupils are supported by the Instrumental Music Service. Of those 66 (52%) pupils achieved Higher at grade A and 52 (47%) at Grade C or above. 41 (77%) achieved Advanced Higher at grade A and 12 (23%) at Grade C or above.
- 3.5 The review of Instrumental Music Service (agreed in May 2010) was implemented from August 2010. This has resulted in a transparent and equitable allocation to schools based on school role. The combination of instrumental lessons offered to each cluster allows for the development of bands, ensembles and orchestras at local, neighbourhood and citywide level.
- 3.6 The new allocation was introduced to schools in August 2010 and monitored throughout the year. Feedback from schools was sought in June 2011. Refinements to the new allocation are continuously applied as appropriate.
- 3.7 All music instructors have now for the first time undertaken Professional Review and Development (PRD). Work is ongoing to plan and agree CPD activities to support personal professional development needs.
- 3.8 The Working Time Agreement was introduced to instructors in August 2010 and is being implemented and monitored from August 2011.
- 3.9 The Principal Officers and Instructors are engaging with Curriculum for Excellence and self evaluation. This is a key priority for the entire service.
- 3.10 Guidelines have been produced for instructors and schools, designed to clearly lay out roles and expectations. Key Information for instructors, schools and parents has been developed and is available on The Orb.
- 3.11 The annual Fanfare concert took place in St. Mary's Cathedral in November 2010 and was widely considered to be of the highest standard. Building on this success, the 2011 concert will take place on Friday 18 November 2011 in St Paul's and St. George's Church on Broughton Street.
- 3.12 The annual Childline concert in the Usher Hall in January 2011 was extremely well attended and enthusiastically received by audiences. Feedback suggests this was considered one of the best Childline concerts. Planning to continue delivering high quality musical experiences for children and young people is ongoing. The next Childline concert will be in the Usher Hall on Sunday 22nd January 2012. Children and Young people from across the city will participate.
- 3.13 The traditional Spring Concert Festival in 2010 was replaced with a series of smaller more intimate concerts in community venues such as care homes and community centres. The purpose was to balance the range of performance opportunities for children and young people and to share their musical talent with a wider audience.

- 3.14 Since February, hundreds of pupils have participated in events that included:
- Concert at the Hub to a national audience at an Learning and Teaching Scotland (LTS)/Creative Scotland event;
 - Highly successful Rock Ensemble Highland Tour that included Lochaber, Ardnamurchan and Ballahuilish High Schools;
 - Joint concert with visiting school wind band from Norway;
 - Jazz Combo played at the Playfair Library at the launch of Edinburgh as an International City of Learning;
 - Daytime concert with Youth Music Initiative (YMI) participants for pupils and parents/carers and an evening public performance;
 - Afternoon concert at the Prentice Centre to an audience of older people and the Alzheimer's Project;
 - Afternoon concert at Oaklands Home for Older People.
- 3.15 A film has been produced showcasing the various centrally organised bands, orchestras and ensembles and the musical talents of young people. This is available to instructors, schools and other interested staff.

Youth Music Initiative

- 3.16 The purpose of the Youth Music Initiative (YMI) is to support and create access to high quality music making programmes particularly for young people who would not normally engage in music activities. The P.6 target ensures every child, including those with Additional Support Needs (ASN), has the opportunity to access free music learning by the end of P.6.
- 3.17 The Youth Music Initiative in Edinburgh caters for a wide range of pupils, including those not selected for music tuition in school. It offers, without audition, free Saturday morning and Friday afternoon music making and voice centres. Experienced professional voice coaches support these children. Other Youth Music Initiative work includes bespoke projects in Young People's Centres, projects with foster families and training in new technology instruments designed to enable children with physical disabilities to participate in music making
- 3.18 In May/June 2010, Arts and Learning agreed with Creative Scotland, a new focus for YMI activity in Edinburgh. In addition to the already successful partnership with National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCoS) other priorities during 2010/11 were to work with and for accommodated and looked after young people.
- 3.19 Since YMI funding first became available in 2003, the programme was delivered through the Instrumental Music Service. The Instrumental Music Service Review did not consider the YMI work because the funding is awarded annually and is secure until 30 June 2012. As a result, from August 2010, YMI programmes were delivered as discreet strands of work which were re-focused more clearly. The YMI now targets young people who face greater barriers to accessing and participating in music. All activity is offered free of charge as stipulated by the funding criteria.

- 3.20 'Fostering a Love of Music' saw Arts and Learning working with Family Based Care and Live Music Now. Foster children and their families came together for a weekend of creative music making followed by a summer workshop for the children. Feedback was extremely positive.
- 3.21 Fostering a Love of Music will be represented at the 4th International Music Council World Forum on Music in Tallinn, Estonia in September. The project beat strong international competition and was selected for reflecting the theme of the forum, 'Music and Social Change'.
- 3.22 Panmure St Ann's provides educational and social work services to young people of secondary school age. The young people experience significant social difficulties and cannot maintain a full time place within mainstream school. During May and June 2010, two music teaching artists worked in Panmure St Ann's with individual pupils and in small groups. Through music they focussed on skills development and explored singing, song-writing, performance skills and recording technique.
- 3.23 An end of term performance by the students was well received demonstrating a positive impact on the participants. As a result Panmure St. Ann's is developing music making and plans to create a Music Room. From August 2011 the teaching artists are again working in Panmure developing this work.
- 3.24 The Skoog is a technology based instrument that enables learners with a wide variety of learning support needs to participate in music making.
- 3.25 A YMI funded Skoogs project has been delivered at Braidburn, Oaklands and Prospect Bank Schools. Teachers and music facilitators were trained on the use of the technology and introduced Skoogs to learners.
- 3.26 Voice Academy continued to offer P6 and P7 pupils access to high quality voice tuition on Saturday mornings at Broughton Academy.
- 3.27 In February, Voice Academy pupils from Towerbank primary and the 5 Voice Academy Centres (Craigentenny Primary, Craigroyston Community High School, St. Francis/Niddriemill Campus, Gracemount High School and WHEC) and performed in the Usher Hall at The Voice of a City, The Lord Provost's People's Concert. The concert was in association with Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust and pupils performed alongside the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, a community choir and pupils from the Erskine Stewart's Melville schools choir.
- 3.28 Sounds like Friday is a regular Friday afternoon session offering P6 and P7 pupils the opportunity to learn guitar and voice. From August 2010, Sounds Like Friday was moved out of the IMS programme and into Craigentenny Primary, Craigroyston Community High School, St. Francis/Niddriemill Campus, Gracemount High School and WHEC.

Pilton Video

- 3.29 Pilton Video was established in 1982 to work with community groups in the local area to make films and programmes.
- 3.30 Since 1995, Pilton Video has been a citywide moving image project. It specialises in moving image educational programmes, with a particular focus on looked after and other vulnerable groups of children and young people. Pilton Video works successfully in partnership with a broad range of individuals, community groups, cultural and public sector organisations and broadcasters.
- 3.31 One of Pilton Video's key strengths is its role in nurturing new talent and providing pathways in to training and employment for young people, in particular those from low income backgrounds. There are strong links with higher and further education and industry.
- 3.32 Pilton Video is nationally recognised within the film and Moving Image Education (MIE) sector, as the benchmark for quality in both process and product when working with young people.
- 3.33 The Co-ordinator of 28 years retired in December 2010 having established Pilton Video as the leading moving image education project in the sector. The post holder and the project had become synonymous. Coupled with a need to reflect the citywide work of Pilton Video, the vacancy has enabled the team to restructure and re-brand.
- 3.34 Since January 2011 Pilton Video has been one FTE staff member short, with a member of staff acting up. In November 2010 it was agreed that the full time Co-ordinator post would be split into two 0.5 posts splitting the different functions. In August 2011, both vacancies were filled and the new management team will work up a 6 month plan.
- 3.35 The publicity and launch of the re-branding of Pilton Video will be led by the new team. Meantime a new name has been agreed and Pilton Video will now be known as Screen Education Edinburgh (SEE).
- 3.36 Screen Education Edinburgh (formerly Pilton Video) enjoys a continuing successful partnership with the Centre for Moving Image (Filmhouse and Edinburgh International Film Festival). This includes delivery of training and education programmes and the further development of the Edinburgh Schools Screenings at the Film Festival. In June 2011, 9 high schools and 16 primary schools saw their films screened at the Edinburgh International Film Festival (schools screening).
- 3.37 SEE continues to lead on the Creative Identities programme funded by Creative Scotland, prioritising work with vulnerable young people.
- 3.38 A three month city wide project in 2010, gave teenagers from local schools and residential homes the opportunity to take part in acting workshops, and resulted in an award winning film. Mum's Birthday is the short film that was produced as a result of workshop activity with 80 enthusiastic young people. Two young people living in residential accommodation were auditioned and cast in the leads roles where they worked along with professional film actors. The

Hollywood Reel Independent Film Festival selected Mum's Birthday for screening in Hollywood in December 2010. The manager and the 2 young actors went to Hollywood as part of the Festival. The film went on to receive a further seven awards and Chris Robertson (young actor) won the Young Scot Awards 2011 in the Entertainment Category. The project's acting manager was nominated for a Scottish Bafta.

- 3.39 Building on recent success particularly with reference to skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work and supporting vulnerable young people towards positive destinations, the work ahead will continue to align with Curriculum for Excellence.

Creative Learning

- 3.40 During the first half of 2010 the Education and the Arts, Culture and Creativity: an Action Plan was prepared by the Scottish Government, with input from Creative Scotland and Learning and Teaching Scotland and launched on 17 September 2010.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/920/0104516.pdf>

A Project Board reporting to Ministers on the Action Plan progress and achievements was formed, and has met regularly since December 2010.

- 3.41 In April 2011, as part of the Action Plan, Education Scotland in partnership with Creative Scotland invited each local authority to bid competitively for funding to develop a Creative Learning Network (CLN). The purpose of the CLN is to embed creativity within and across the curriculum by extending the role of the arts and culture to develop creative skills and attributes in children and young people.
- 3.42 Arts and Learning was awarded a grant of £9,500 and is now developing Creative Conversations that will shape Creative Learning in Edinburgh to:
- develop a common language and understanding of creativity within the overarching context of Curriculum for Excellence
 - explore the role and potential of the arts and cultural sector contributing to creativity within and across the new curriculum
- 3.43 An event will be organised by young people in Edinburgh schools during which they will consider the collective pledge drawn from the Creative Conversations and explore how they would like to develop their creativity within and outwith school.

New Partnerships

- 3.44 Arts and Learning worked closely with Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO) to facilitate the SCO becoming an orchestra in residence at Preston Street School.
- 3.45 SCO, Preston Street School and Arts and Learning, through this residency are engaged in research looking at the Social Return on Investment of the orchestra residency in the school.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications related to this report.

5 Equalities Impact

5.1 The instrumental music service offers free tuition in schools and access to participation in bands, orchestras and ensembles. This means all young people can access the service and no child or young person is excluded on ability to pay. Uptake will continue to be monitored.

Around 60% of pupils accessing the service are female and 40% male.

6 Environmental Impact

6.1 There are no adverse impacts arising from this report.

7 Conclusions

7.1 Arts and Learning is progressing well with implementing the Review of the Instrumental Music Service. The service continues to be free at the point of access and the allocation of instructors in all schools is equitable.

7.2 The development of Creative Learning in Edinburgh is being taken forward strategically with feedback from Education Scotland commending the proposals for:

- Strong proposal and ambitious programme with clearly articulated purpose, aims and actions; robust plan
- Strength in recognizing current situation and building from there
- Strategically linked; strong partners involved in management/delivery.
- Good use of evaluation as advocacy for the future.
- Good pupil involvement.

8 Recommendations

8.1 It is recommended that the Education, Children and Families Committee notes:

- a) The content of this report; and
- b) That a progress update will be reported to Education, Children and Families Committee annually.

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Appendices	None
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Wards affected	All
Single Outcome Agreement	
Background Papers	