

## **Notes for Comenius Regio - Warrington and Hilden 2012**

### Introduction;

- Partners – Impact – (Youth Services) Warrington Museum and Art Gallery and Schools (possibly STB)
- **Impact-** Conduct formative evaluation of Cultural and Arts activities available to the youth of Warrington in relation to the Cultural Quarter. This will inform both the Warrington Schools Arts and Culture Service and the Cultural Service Trust about ways in which to encourage participation of children and young people in meaningful cultural engagement in the town centre and especially in the Cultural Quarter.
- **Warrington Museum and Art Gallery** - This partner organization will facilitate the Comenius Project with Derek Dick being the lead. The information gathered will be used to inform the Cultural Strategy for the Town Centre and also inform cross directorate plans with Children and Young Peoples Services (Warrington Schools Arts and Culture Service). This will directly inform the development plan concerning the allocation of the Music Education Grant in relation to the provision of opportunities for Gifted and Talented students.
- **School Partnership** – This project will provide a school with an opportunity to engage students in the preparation and delivery of Music and Media connected with the outcomes. We intend to commission a composition which will be performed by students on a theme of 'Culture – Past Present and Future'. We also intend to involve students in the making of a film to celebrate views of young people relating to Arts and Culture and this in turn will link with the work of Impact.

### Team:

- Project Managers
- Youth Council Board Representatives – IMPACT
- School Teacher and Senior Manager
- Commissioned Composer
- Commissioned Film Maker

### Objectives:

1. To encourage youth groups to evaluate and inform future planning with regard to town centre Arts and Culture activities in Hilden and Warrington. This work will be presented at a final Youth Conference – 'Uniting Europe through Arts and Culture' at the end of the project.
2. To find ways in which Youth Councils from both Hilden and Warrington can engage in exchange of ideas and information on a regular basis.

3. To continue to develop the cultural partnership working between Hilden and Warrington, which can be developed and sustained.
4. To empower students to inform and facilitate discussion which embraces the theme of inclusion and to share this work in both towns. This work will be shared with elected council members in order to enhance the ideology of democracy and the reality of informing and implementing any potential outcomes of their research.
5. To encourage students to think carefully about their cultural heritage (past, present and future) in order to inform development of Arts and Cultural activities ( in the context of the Cultural Quarter in Warrington) for their peers and future generations.
6. To give students a sense of heritage awareness - this would lead to ownership of decisions relating to Arts and Culture in Warrington and Hilden, and to enhance their sense and understanding of 'pupil voice'.
7. To produce a final document through IMPACT and related youth groups (Hilden) which informs the use of the Music Education Grant in the context of access and participation in Music activities.
8. To encourage a sense of town pride in Warrington and Hilden.
9. To animate the town centres with modern media activities which will attract further interest from local residents and also promote partnership between the council and local business.

#### Outcomes:

1. To have a clear understanding of the needs of children and young people in Warrington and Hilden in relation to Arts and Culture within the town centre.
2. To develop the working relationship between the Youth Service, Warrington Museum and Arts Gallery and the Warrington Schools' Arts and Culture Service (and the equivalent in Hilden)
3. To produce a research document and DVD on the theme of Arts and Cultural activities in Hilden and Warrington
4. To encourage members of IMPACT to engage with Warrington schools in order to produce a comprehensive student view of current provision for Arts and Cultural activities in the town centre and to identify needs relating to extra-curricular Music Education provision (and the equivalent in Hilden)
5. To project media images onto a cultural building in both town centres as a way of engaging with younger audiences through the use of Architectural Projection Mapping. This in turn will promote the town centre image of Hilden and Warrington and improve the regional profile of both towns in the context of working in partnership with young people.
6. To encourage partnership between the local authority and a school through performance of a commissioned composition relating to thoughts about Arts and Culture in Warrington.

**Considerations:**

- **Inform Elected Members from Hilden and Warrington about the intention to run the project.**
- **Contact Youth Group Coordinators and discuss the content of the Arts and Culture Research Project. Discuss content and context of Arts and Culture Research Project with students from IMPACT and Hilden Youth Service.**
- **Contact Media companies for quote regarding cost of Architectural Projection Mapping**
- **Contact school to discuss implications and outcomes of the project.**
- **Ensure that clear parameters with regard to resources are set at the beginning of the project prior to any consultation taking place. The results need to be realistic and manageable.**
- **Consider an Exit Strategy and ways in which the project can be sustained after the 2 year period.**

**Summary Notes:**

- The Youth Councils will evaluate current town centre provision relating to Arts and Culture in their individual towns.
- The Youth Councils will produce an informative document focusing on how individual towns can develop their provision in relation to the current needs of children and young people.
- This document will be used to guide the school in the production of a promotional DVD in Hilden and Warrington which will be used in a final celebration event to take place in Warrington in 2013.
- This DVD could also be used as marketing tool for local businesses to engage with and invest in Arts and Culture through the sponsorship of specific events or activities.
- This work will be valued through the inclusion of a Youth Council specific agenda item in future town centre meetings.