

Pro Forma for Participation Works Network for England regional case studies

Region: East of England	
Submitted by: Creative Arts East Date of submission: 26 March 2009	
The sector this case study is an example of:	
Voluntary sector activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Statutory sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
The themes this case study can be used to support (<i>tick all that apply</i>):	
Arts & creativity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commissioning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hard to reach groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inclusive practice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Learning & research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Measuring change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online tools	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rights/citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Standards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workforce development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth-led project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name of project: Bright Ideas	
Name of lead person on project: Natalie Jode	
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Aims of the project: To work with two groups of young people with learning disabilities and/or difficulties in Norfolk and Suffolk to make a film about their chosen issue-based topic. To give these young people a voice; to develop their media skills; to increase their social awareness.	
Timeline for the project (expected start and finish date, if known): November 2008 – February 2009	
Please name any other organisations involved if this was a project developed as a partnership:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Artlink • Parkside School in Norwich 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Priory School in Bury St Edmunds
<p>Who funded this project?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediabox • Norfolk County Council • Suffolk County Council
<p>How many young people were involved? 30</p>
<p>What changes has children & young people's involvement led to? The funding application was submitted following consultation with the young people to decide on the topic of the films they would make, to consider where and when the sessions would be held, to decide what type of film they would make and to discuss where it would be screened and to whom. The young people were also involved in leading the major decisions during the project and changes such as staff recruitment were made to accommodate the decisions made by the groups.</p>
<p>What did children and young people involved in this work achieve from this experience? An increase in their personal and social development: patience, team working, confidence and compromise were all noted as points they felt they had improved upon. An increased sense of worth and ability having been the major lead in all the decisions...just being asked what they thought was fairly new to them and at first opinions were difficult to solicit from most. A sense of real achievement when the final films were screened to audiences of friends and family.</p>
<p>What next for the project? The films will be screened as widely as possible, following the list of suggested screening venues that the young people themselves had identified.</p>
<p>What next for the participants? Continued positive engagement at school.</p>
<p>Quotes from staff, management, children, parents/ carers: Mrs Sue Hawkins, Deputy Head Teacher of Parkside Special School said:</p> <p><i>“We feel very privileged to be part of this project which has focussed on keeping our potentially NEET children positive and involved in school and education. Throughout the whole experience the children were fully included and involved which for students at Parkside is a major achievement over a short period of time.”</i></p>

Participation Works wants to share your good practice to a wider audience to enable others to learn from your experience and develop their own participation practice.