

Inspire, Experiment, Challenge

Schools at Wysing Arts Centre 2018-19



Artsmark
Partner

Supporting cultural education, endorsed by Arts Council England





Introduction

This resource is designed to:

- Provide practical advice for visiting Wysing Arts Centre
- Outline a range of ways in which Wysing can support children, young people and schools
- Introduce ways for young people and educators to experience art and artistic processes
- See how art can support the curriculum, exam specifications, Arts Award and Artsmark
- Foster appreciation of contemporary art as a means to understand the world today
- Help you plan your visit to Wysing

'The activities were brilliant. Very age appropriate and using techniques that we wouldn't commonly use in school. Particularly the year 5 soundscape. Staff were inspired and I think will use ideas in their teaching.' Deputy Head

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About Wysing Arts Centre

Wysing Arts Centre provides a range of programmes for artistic research, experimentation, discovery & production in contemporary visual arts. Wysing's rural site near Cambridge includes:

- Contemporary gallery holding temporary exhibitions
- Education studio
- 20 artists' studios
- Project spaces including a recording studio
- Site sculptures & outdoor woodlands
- A 17th century farmhouse

We aim to develop new ways to support artists & enable art & ideas to reach a wide range of people. We work with national & international artists working across visual arts, music, dance, choreography, writing & digital technologies.



Education at Wysing Arts Centre

Our education programmes are designed to empower young artists to develop their creative thinking. We offer artist-led activities to inspire children & young people to explore & take ownership of their creativity & view every child & young person who works with us as an artist. Our education offer can be tailored to meet the exam specifications, curriculum topics, Arts Award & Artsmark development areas.

Inspire

Discover creative experiences with Wysing artists that can support students critical thinking and explore engaging insights into curriculum topics.

Experiment

Test out new ideas and explore different approaches to art making across a variety of media. Work collaboratively to encourage team work and new opportunities.

Challenge

Work with students or staff to understand how schools can address key issues such as diversity, identity and gender.

Free Tours and Self-Guided Visits

Wysing Arts Centre is set on an 11 acre site, with site sculptures to explore all year round. You can visit free with a group, and we will provide an introduction on your arrival. We can provide pre-visit support and ideas to help your group explore the site.

During exhibitions we can also offer a free 20 minute introduction to the exhibition with a member of education staff.



'At your art centre I liked it because you thought about bullying...you really taught me lots of things.' Alice, Year 3

Artist Studio Visit

Wysing is home to 20 studio artists who are at the centre all year round. We can organise hour-long studio visits with these artists, allowing students an opportunity to meet an artist, discover their work and ask them about their career. You can find biographies of our current studio artists online (http://www.wysingartscentre.org/about/studio_artists) and we are able to recommend artists to fit with specific subjects of study and interests.

Artist studio visits last an hour, and cost £50. For larger groups we recommend having 2 half hour sessions.

Upcoming Exhibitions



Warm Worlds & Otherwise

7 October to 9 December 2018

Warm Worlds & Otherwise is artist Anna Bunting-Branch's first major solo exhibition, staging an ambitious, experimental new work in Virtual Reality. Working with digital arts studio Workflow, Bunting-Branch has transformed her hand-painted characters, props & backdrops into an immersive new virtual reality world.



View from Behind the Futuristic Rose Trellis – An Opera

10 February to 14 April 2019

An ambitious & exciting new live work by Ravioli Me Away (RMA) - three female directors, performers & composers. At Wysing, the immersive work will be shown as an exhibition with two live performances. The opera incorporates video work, set design & costumes inspired by sci-fi & suburban architecture aesthetics.

Coming soon

Alumni exhibition, summer 2019

Wysing at 30, celebrations throughout 2019

Creative Workshops

We're able to offer a wide variety of practical, creative workshops in mixed media visual art, performance & sound. We are able to offer half day workshops for £175 and full day workshops for £300. We work with artists working in multidisciplinary, multimedia formats and are also able to offer bespoke workshops. Here are some ideas to get you started:

Zine Making

Explore contemporary issues that link with artists practice including gender, feminism, environmental issues. Work with an artist to explore these issues & create zine campaigns linking imagery & English.

Curriculum links: History, English, Languages, Design

Landscape & Meaning Making

Work in the landscape with an artist to explore space, composition, texture & collaboration. Create links between everyday life & curriculum topics, using the landscape & art as a starting point to explore different subject areas.

Curriculum links: Science, IT, Design & Technology, Maths, PE, Dance

Creative Careers

Working with Wysing studio artists & staff, we introduce arts & culture as a genuine career choice. Q&A sessions promote an understanding of a range of different routes towards earning a living from creative skills.

Artsmark link: Engagement





'I was so impressed when, during a recent workshop with Liv Wynter, pupils were asked which pronoun they wish to be addressed by. This immediately set the tone for the work to come and got pupils thinking about identity, inclusion and diversity in our culture.' Mark, Head of Art

Understand

Artists at Wysing often explore challenging contemporary themes in their work & we actively seek artists who can bring a range of cultural, social, racial & gender perspectives. We aim to help children & young people access these perspectives in a sensitive, age-appropriate way.

Curriculum Links: Citizenship, Sociology, Psychology, History, Languages, English, Science, Drama

Co-production

We are experienced in co-production & facilitating children & young people to lead in the planning & delivery of arts experiences. Students can work with an artist to shape & produce work, activities or events. In the past collaborations have included zine-making in response to exhibitions or topics, running workshops, or responding to commission briefs.

Curriculum links: Art, Drama, PHSE, Geography, Music, SMSC

Teacher CPD

We can offer bespoke development sessions for staff to develop creative skills & devise ways to use these in the classroom. Work with experienced arts educators to try a range of hands-on activities exploring specific techniques, using commonly available materials in new ways. We can link to multiple curriculum areas, showing art as a catalyst or process for broader learning.

Artsmark link: Continuing Professional Development

'All of the staff commented on the day & lots said it was the best training day they had ever experienced!' Arts Lead, School

Artsmark

As an Artsmark partner we are able to support you to develop your creative offer at school. We are able to offer support through one-off workshops, or longer term projects and partnerships. We have specific experience of developing peer-led groups in order to develop the voice of children and young people at school. We have previously supported schools in developing their case study for the Artsmark Award.

You can read more about how we supported Thorndown Primary School with their Artsmark here: nnfestival.org.uk/festival-bridge/schools-education/artsmark/artsmark-case-studies/thorndown-primary-school

You can find out more about Artsmark here: www.artsmark.org.uk





Access & Practicalities

Please contact us to discuss any access needs within your group so that we can accommodate them on your visit. Many of our activities and workshops can be tailored to meet SEND and PMLD.

Wysing Arts Centre is a rural site, and therefore not all areas are fully physically accessible. We have parking spaces for disabled visitors at the front of the site and step-free access to the Reception, Gallery and Open Studio education space. There are accessible WCs on site. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

We can accommodate up to 90 students on site per day. Please speak to us how we can support your students visit on site or at school.



How to book

We ask that you contact us to book in all visits, including free self-guided visits, at least three weeks in advance. Please contact us directly below via phone or email to discuss opportunities, arrange a free pre-visit, or to book your experience.

Summary of Opportunities and Costs

- FREE Site visit. We have a large rural site with outdoor sculpture, a programme of exhibitions & space for self-led learning activities
- FREE Exhibition tour. 20 minutes with a member of Wysing Education staff
- £50 Artist Studio Visit. one-hour artist studio visit. Meet an artist in their studio, discover their work & processes & ask them about their career
- £175/£300 Artist-led workshop (half day/full day). On site or in your school.
- Bespoke programme: whole school; artist in residence; STEAM – cost dependent on requirements
- Teachers INSET: cost dependent on requirements.

Contact

01954 717108 // education@wysingartscentre.org
 Wysing Arts Centre, Fox Road, Bourn, Cambridgeshire, CB23 2TX

'I loved this whole experience! Should I become a performance artist? I think I might! Remember the name! Asande! You changed my life!' Year 10 student