



****PRESS RELEASE****

Creative Partnerships helps Schools to Achieve Excellence

Ofsted recognises Creative Partnerships schools in its new report: 'Twenty Outstanding Primary Schools – Excelling Against the Odds'

A number of Creative Partnerships schools are celebrating after featuring in Ofsted's new report listing the top twenty outstanding primary schools in the country. Cotmanhay Infant School in Derbyshire, St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School and Nursery in Liverpool, Welbeck Primary School in the City of Nottingham and World's End Infant and Nursery School in Birmingham are all recognised in Ofsted's report, *Twenty outstanding primary schools - Excelling against the odds*, for providing a 'great service to highly disadvantaged communities in different parts of the country'. Creative Partnerships (www.creative-partnerships.com) is the Government's flagship creative learning programme.

The report aims to help all primary schools become excellent by revealing the principles and practice of schools which are not only consistently outstanding but which also serve some of the most disadvantaged communities in the country. Ofsted remarks that Creative Partnerships has played a role as it has "given the teachers confidence in using art very much more creatively in their lessons [and] most teachers have responded imaginatively to the freedom to use space in different ways and to develop the curriculum."

Creative Partnerships at Cotmanhay Infant School has contributed to the schools continued success, giving children "as rich and wide opportunities as possible" including input from a Creative Partnerships theatre and film expert. At Welbeck Primary School

the programme has helped the school to “capitalise on the cosmopolitan backgrounds of the children to promote internationalism, embedding the global dimension”. The teachers have also “become more expressive in their work through working with the artists in residence”.

Paul Collard, Chief Executive of Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE) the new national organisation which manages Creative Partnerships, said: “We are delighted that the role of Creative Partnerships in helping schools to excel against the odds has been acknowledged in Ofsted’s latest report. We believe that creative learning and access to cultural opportunity is crucial for all children and young people as it brings with it the ability to question, make connections, innovate, problem solve, communicate, collaborate and reflect critically – all skills demanded by today’s employers. “

Creative Partnerships has worked with nearly 5,000 schools across England, from Key Stage 1 to 4. The programme fosters innovative long-term partnerships between schools and creative professionals, including artists, performers, architects, multimedia developers and scientists. These partnerships inspire young people, teachers and creative professionals to challenge how they work and experiment with new ideas.

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For more information please contact:

Sarah Scott, PR & Media Manager at Creativity, Culture and Education on 020 7420 5423 or email: sarah.scott@cceengland.org

Creative Partnerships (www.creative-partnerships.com):

Creative Partnerships is the Government’s creative learning programme which has worked with over 940,000 young people and over 90,000 teachers by fostering long-term partnerships between schools and creative professionals to inspire, harness the potential of creative learning and experiment with new ideas. Managed by new national organisation, Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE) (www.creativitycultureeducation.org), the programme was launched in 2002 and has worked with nearly 5,000 schools across England, from Key Stage 1 to 4.

Creativity, Culture and Education (www.creativitycultureeducation.org):

Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE) is the new national organisation which aims to transform the lives of children and families by harnessing the potential of creative learning and cultural opportunity to enhance their aspirations, achievements and skills. **Our vision** is for children’s creativity to be encouraged and nurtured in and out of school and for all children to experience and access the diverse range of cultural activity in England because these opportunities can have an enormous impact on their life chances.

CCE delivers the following cultural and creative programmes and initiatives:

- *Creative Partnerships* – the Government's flagship creative learning programme:
www.creative-partnerships.com
- *Find Your Talent* – the Government's pilot cultural offer for all children and young people:
www.findyourtalent.org
- *Shine* – the annual celebration of the talent of all children and young people: www.shineweek.co.uk