



# Experiencing the Arts Fund Go and See

*Creative learning through the arts*  
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Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru  
Arts Council of Wales



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Arts Council of Wales is committed to making information available in large print, braille, audio, Easy Read and British Sign Language and will endeavour to provide information in languages other than Welsh or English on request.

## Igniting the spark...

Experiencing the arts can be inspiring, challenging, engaging, and fun, and has an important part to play in the learning experiences of our young people wherever in Wales they live.

We believe that our children and young people should have the chance to be inspired and excited by the best that the arts in Wales has to offer. So, as part of the Welsh Government/Arts Council of Wales joint-funded *Creative learning through the arts* programme, the Experiencing the Arts Fund aims to provide children and young people with opportunities to engage with arts and cultural activities as a routine part of their wider learning experience.

The Experiencing the Arts Fund is about encouraging schools to provide children and young people with opportunities to go ‘one step further’ in their explorations of creative, cultural and arts experiences. People who are arts enthusiasts in later life will often point to a specific event or experience in their school age years that got them excited about the arts.

## An initiative rooted in policy

The Experiencing the Arts Fund is one of the commitments made in *Creative learning through the arts*. The fund was launched in March 2016 to help deliver a major strand of this action plan, the **All-Wales Arts and Education Offer**.

This guidance will help you decide if the **Go and See Fund** is right for you. It will also explain whether the project you’re thinking about is the type of thing that we’re able to support. Finally, we tell you how to go about making an application for funding.

## Go and See: High-quality arts activity

Go and See is a simple scheme offering funding for straightforward visits to high-quality arts events. Schools can apply for small, one-off grants of up to £1,000 to fund single visits to high-quality arts events in venues across Wales. Go and See experiences could include visits to performances and exhibitions, or visits to experience arts professionals developing and creating their work.

Go and See funding is growing in popularity and lots of schools and learners are already benefitting from high-quality arts and cultural experiences outside the school and classroom environment. You can read about some of the Go and See experiences schools and learners have been enjoying on our website, [here](#).

## What will we pay for?

We don’t have a monopoly on good ideas. So we don’t want to be overly prescriptive in setting out what we will and won’t fund. The important thing is that an application demonstrates how the proposed activity contributes to and enriches learning and how it offers learners something new and stimulating. We’re looking for projects that really will try and make a difference.

Here are a few pointers on some of the things we are prepared to consider:

- Coach hire or other public transport costs. We expect you to use the most economical means of transport practicable.
- Ticket costs. We expect you to take advantage of discounts and block booking opportunities where these are available.
- Workshop costs. These must be hosted by the venue during the period of the visit. Go and See is open to all maintained schools in Wales.
- We are not able to provide funding for capital expenditure/the purchase of equipment.
- We're able to provide **up to 90% funding** for approved proposals, and match funding can be either or a mix of cash and in-kind support.
- We cannot fund activities that are already scheduled and included in existing budgets.
- We cannot fund activities or performances that take place in school.
- Finally, we're not able to provide funding for access to arts venues or events that are outside of Wales.

We know that for some schools the particular issues that they face will be different to others. For example, where a school is in an area of high economic

disadvantage or in a very rural area with poor public transport, or where a Welsh medium school is in an area with little access to Welsh medium arts or cultural opportunities, we will look especially carefully at the case you make for funding.

We're only able to support projects that are **new and additional to your usual activities**. We can't support existing core teaching, projects that are already happening, or projects that are going ahead anyway with or without our funding. This is about new activity; the principle of 'additionality' is very important.

### How to apply

**Go and See** applications can only come from a school. You'll need to complete an application form using our online application process, which can be accessed on our website [here](#).

The kind of information we ask you for at point of application is:

- An outline of the activity that you want us to fund;
- The total cost of the project and the amount of grant you are requesting;
- How the (minimum) 10% of total project costs will be matched;
- Information on the group(s) of young people who'll be benefitting from your project (including pupil ages);
- Information and data on the outcomes

you expect to achieve (for example, how many children will benefit);

- A summary of intended impact and how the project will contribute to this;
- A description of your school(s);
- An explanation of how the activity you are asking us to fund will be additional to your usual creative activities.

You'll also need to give us the contact details for the organisation and individual within the organisation who'll be leading this project.

We are particularly interested in receiving applications involving schools that have not yet benefited from Creative learning through the arts funding to date.

### **Deadline for applications**

There is no deadline for **Go and See**, which means schools can apply for funding at any time. In most cases, you will normally hear within 3 working weeks whether your application has been successful or not, so we would encourage you to submit your application well in advance of the event you wish to attend. You must apply a minimum of 4 working weeks in advance of your proposed trip to allow for our grant making process.

### **Learning from what's happening**

As with all publicly funded projects it's important that we include some monitoring and evaluation of what's happened. This

helps us to check that projects did happen. However, equally importantly, we want projects to teach us about the best ways of bringing the arts and culture and education together to improve creative learning.

We want the programme to have a tangible legacy. So at the end of your project, we'll ask you to provide us with a short report on your activity and whether your anticipated outcomes were achieved. We will provide you with a template for this purpose. We'd also like you to include some short reviews and/or quotes from your pupils.

### **Find out more**

We know that making applications takes time and effort. We're here to help. If you're thinking of applying for Experiencing the Arts funding, we'd be happy for you to contact us to discuss your proposal. Email us at [creative.learning@arts.wales](mailto:creative.learning@arts.wales)

### Go and See application top tips:

- If you have received any previous funding from us, please make sure that you have returned an evaluation form so that grant can be closed. We are unable to release further funding until this has happened.
- This programme is ring fenced for school aged children starting from nursery up until the age of 16. Please note that we are unable to fund post 16 education, including FE Colleges and Sixth Form.
- In competitive funding rounds priority will be given to schools that are yet to benefit from Creative learning through the arts funding.
- We cannot fund capital expenditure; e.g. purchasing equipment.
- Please include the exact date that you hope the trip will take place.
- Make the high-quality arts focus of your trip clear.
- Activity must occur in arts venues and not within school.
- Ensure you are requesting a grant of no more than 90% of the total cost of your trip, and identify how you will meet the minimum 10% match funding requirement.
- We are unable to fund activity that you have already booked.