

**Children, Education and Communities Policy  
and Scrutiny Committee**

24 September 2019

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities and Culture)

**Cultural Entitlement for Young People**

**Summary**

1. This report provides an update on work to develop a cultural entitlement for young people.

**Background**

2. This committee asked for an update on the commitment contained in the city's new cultural strategy to develop a cultural entitlement for all young people.
3. This work is very much at the developmental stage but what follows represents an outline of the early thinking.

**Ambition**

4. The ambition underlying this work is that:  
York becomes the first city to achieve cultural entitlement for all children and young people.
5. The Cultural Strategy embraces Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>1</sup> by placing young people at the centre of designing their cultural experience. The aim is that, from September 2019, working within the new OFSTED Framework, all York's learners, particularly the most disadvantaged and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) will be provided with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.
6. REACH, the Local Cultural Education Partnership, will lead the development of a joined-up local arts and heritage education offer, securing new investment into shared resources that bring about a more

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/>

coherent and visible delivery of cultural education involving formal and informal sectors.

7. Aligned with York Strategic Partnership for Emotional and Mental Health, young people's emotional and mental wellbeing are a key focus within the strategy. Access to creativity and culture will support a 'whole child' approach, developing resilience and supporting wellbeing at key life stages for children and young people.

### **Actions**

8. Actions are likely to include:
  - Seeding the opportunity for every child in the city to be an artist, making culture accessible to all children and young people.
  - Embedding York's cultural offer within universities and colleges, enabling young people to go on to fulfil their creative potential throughout every stage of their life.
  - Developing events to bring students into contact with employers and encouraging students to attend culture and creative industry events.
  - Developing young people's creative intelligence and investing in family cultural capital<sup>2</sup>.

### **Overall Outcomes**

9. Outcomes will be:
  - Creative partnership working has realised a greater opportunity for young people in York to achieve their aspirations.
  - Schools are encouraged and inspired to recognise the holistic benefits of arts and heritage engagement for children and young people inside and outside the classroom.
  - Arts engagement is part of the core educational offer within schools and informal learning environments.
  - More children and young people participate in, and experience arts and heritage activity and sign up for appropriate arts and heritage learning and accreditation schemes.
  - York children and young people have better health and wellbeing, and develop a wider range of creative skills, greater confidence, and heightened awareness of future opportunities.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://culturallearningalliance.org.uk/what-is-cultural-capital/>

- York is a national exemplar with respect to cultural entitlement for children and young people with every child and young person having the chance to create, play and participate.

### Recommendations

10. Members are asked to note and comment on the contents of this report.

Reason: To ensure Members are informed and consulted on the development of cultural entitlement for young people.

### Contact Details

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**Report Approved** ✓      **Date:** 3 September, 2019

**Specialist Implications Officers:**

**Wards Affected:** All ✓

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

### Abbreviations

OFSTED- Office for Standards in Education

SEND- Special Educational Needs