



HQ Arts update 03/07

HQ Arts continued to develop and deliver a range of projects throughout the last six months

September-November 06

ARTiculation performance – Team Respect

Following the usual, short, intensive rehearsal period, young people from NCH's ARTiculation programme performed in front of a packed audience at NCH's headquarters in Highbury, before performing at a Neil Stewart conference: "Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Creating Safer Communities", at Earls Court in London.



Team Respect rehearsal

ENYAN

HQ Arts Director Stuart Hawkes has taken up the voluntary position of Chair for the newly formed English Youth Arts Network (ENYAN), Yorkshire.

Children's Centre Training

HQ Arts continue to roll out their training programme, "Delivering Teenage Parent Friendly Integrated Services", to the new Children's Centres continues across Wakefield. Commissioned by the PCT/Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Board, the day long events bring together a range of professionals from the agencies working with young parents, including Midwives, Health Visitors, Children's Centre Staff, School Nurses, Educational Welfare Officers and youth and community workers.



midwives, health visitors and Children's Centre Staff networking, teambuilding and enjoying themselves

“Great chance to network, team building exercises: really useful”

“Was great to be active and not sat down all day, gave me lots of ideas and tips”

“Very much enjoyed the opportunity to network with other agencies. Also found that throughout the training it was fun and appropriate”

The training programme is due for completion by March 2007

Wakefield Young People's Service – Youth Opportunities Fund training

Wakefield Young People's Service commissioned HQ Arts to develop a training programme for young people and staff to familiarise themselves with the values and principles of the Youth Opportunities Fund and develop their own approach to delivering it..

ARTiculation - devising – scripting

In November the 2006 ARTiculation cohort came together to start on the creation of a new piece that would reflect young people's views about the government's Care Matters Green paper. 16 young people from across the country met in North Yorkshire to begin the process.



getting creative with the Green paper

December-February 2007

Connexions: Activity Agreement Pilot

HQ Arts began the first of a series of regular interventions with young people who are **NEET** (Not in Education Employment or Training).



Working in partnership with Connexions, HQ Arts will deliver a three day induction and exit course to young people who have signed up to take part in the Activity Agreement Pilot. Using creative methods HQ arts will work with participants to reflect on their experiences, identify areas for development and plan for the future.

Care Matters Consultations

With funding from the DfES, NCH Public Policy Unit commissioned HQ Arts to devise and deliver a one day creative consultation workshop focussing on the Care Matters Green Paper. HQ Arts consulted young people at venues in Yorkshire, the North West, South East and London. These full day sessions included a range of NCH service users including those in local authority care and care leavers.



creative consultation in Rotherham

ARTiculation - Looked After

The first performance of “Looked After”, young people’s responses to the Care Matters Green Paper, was performed in January at the Neil Stewart Associates’ Child Participation Conference in London:

“Very engaging and professional performance. It raised the complicated, person centred issues related to living in and leaving care.”



“Your performance blew me away! So well done, I forgot where I was and was totally engaged and following every word that was said. Your message told us what the ‘professionals’ would have done in 84 PowerPoint slides! Best thing I’ve seen in ages.”

A further performance was commissioned for the ***Future of Commissioning Fostering Services Conference*** held in London in February.

“Powerful performance which was innovative and moving”

“Entertaining, succinct & intelligent in content, well performed, well structured focused thoroughly well done – I don’t think it can be improved.”

“Very cleverly and sensitively presented”

Wakefield Young People’s Service

With funding from **Wakefield Youth Opportunities Fund**, HQ Arts organised two week-long projects over the February half-term holiday.

Makin’ Trax, working with Chris Campbell and Paulette Morris, participants wrote lyrics, laid down tracks and performed their work to an invited audience. Makin Trax also involved young people from **Leeds Young Authors**, who

acted as peer mentors on the project. The tracks will be available to download from our website www.hqarts.com in the near future.



Makin Movies involved participants in storyboarding, scripting, filming and editing a short film in just a week. The group worked with professional film makers Ian and Julie, from Leeds based Immedia Productions.

Wakefield MDC's Supporting People team contracted HQ Arts to plan and deliver a one-day consultation with young people about a proposed 17 bed temporary accommodation unit in the area. Participants were involved in designing the layout of rooms, creating mood boards and considering ground rules for tenants.

MENCAP

Planning is now underway on a series of regional and national events for Mencap. HQ Arts will be working in partnership with the Mencap arts team to develop and deliver a series of creative consultation sessions with young people who they support.

What next?

Barnardo's/Wakefield Young Families have commissioned HQ Arts to work with young parents to create a new performance for their Celebration of Achievement event in May

Barnardo's/Wakefield PCT have submitted a grants for the arts application for "Twice the Joy", a creative consultation process with young parents and the professionals that work with them leading to a new performance and tour. The new piece will focus on attitudes to second and subsequent pregnancies.

"Looked After" will be performed at the "Lost" one-act theatre festival in London in April

NCH have confirmed that the annual ARTiculation Youth Arts Weekend will be held in August at Crewe and Alsager campus of MMU.

For further information contact Stuart Hawkes or Karen Quigley on 01977 794254 or email info@hqarts.com