

# A Creative Schools Case Study

Athenry Boys National School, 2018-2020



Creative Associate.

#### **EXPLORING**

Defining Creativity with students, staff and management through a ange of creative methods





#### UNDERSTAND

the strengths, needs and wishes of everyone around



#### SUPPORTS

Establishing voluntary Engaging management.



Voting on Creative activities and media by staff and students to establish preferences and shared interests.

# Investing in the process of creating a plan

What is creativity? Where does it fit? How it is perceived? What value?

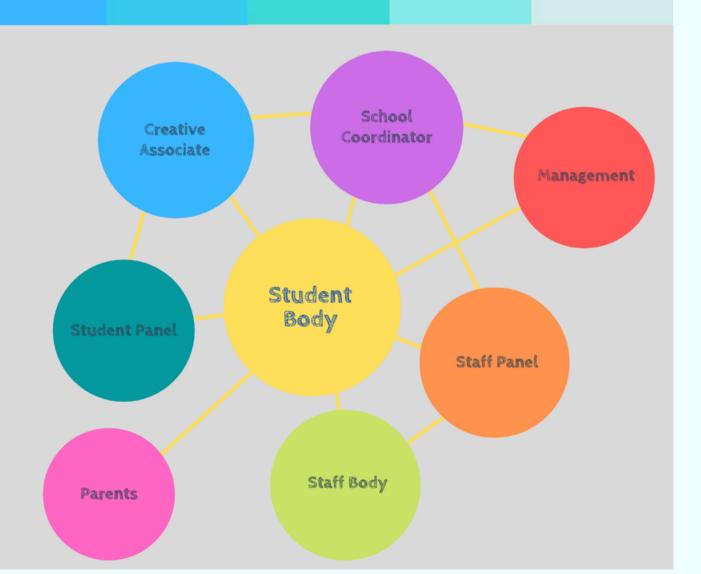
> Student Voice: Their experience. What they enjoy. What to develop.

Staff needs + ideas Buy-in through inclusion & transparency

Interests: Introducing & voting on creative media

Priorities: Needs, challenges, opportunities & wishes

Bigger context What else is going on?



### Some of the informative results

Pupils want more involvement in creative decision-making

Staff confidence in facilitating creative decision-making for pupils

Creativity is a silo and elite. Not for everyone.

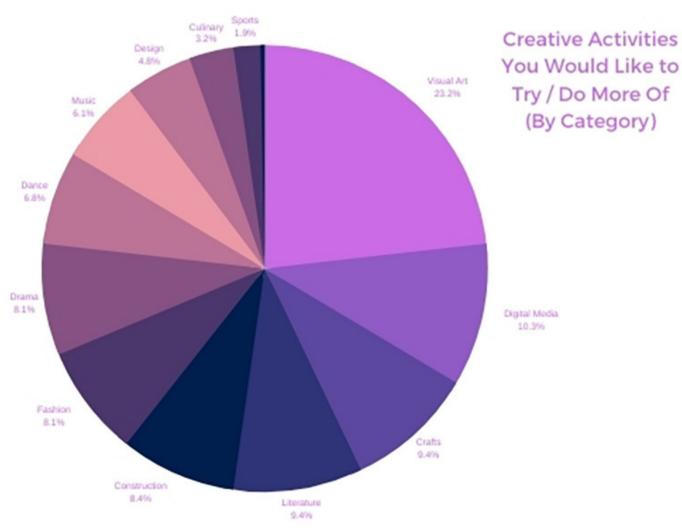
Bridging the Gap Cross: curricular learning through creativity

Need for integration and community building

Few links with creative community to support teaching & learning

Everyone is interested in building stuff!





# Forming the plan in response to priorities

Needs + wishes = aims + vision

Interests =
clear indication
of activities
to explore

Bigger context
=
specific linkage +
additional
support

Wider priorities
=
methodologies to
enhance learning
&
development

Why?
Quantify &
quality actions
& outcomes.

Growth:
Reference, change,
develop, add.
Gauge progress &
development

### VISION

To foster a more cohesive and confident creative school community towards a greater sense of inclusion and wellbeing.



# The value of the plan - What we achieved

Whole-school, fully inclusive, pupil-led large-scale, short-term project

CPD for staff
looking at cross
curricular learning
through creativity

Building relationships with creatives, locally and within the region

Celebrating with inhouse & national exhibition, RTE & a publication

Whole-school, fully inclusive, pupil-led large-scale, long-term project

Linkage with permaculture, biodiversity, outdoor education, wellbeing & sustainability

Links with creatives locally and within the region

Celebrating every day
through more
integrated & inclusive
learning + annual
projects