

Objectives and Activities

Spaeda (Somerset Partnership Arts Education Agency) is an arts education charity (No 1083241) and company limited by guarantee (No 4043022), established on 28th July 2000 to provide training, advice, advocacy, resources and research in arts education. It has an embedded understanding of the arts and in-depth knowledge of schools and education and delivers artist led projects responding to schools' needs.

The charity's objects as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are to advance education for all people. In particular, by enhancing and enriching education through the arts and by creating opportunities for experience and participation in arts of high quality in partnership with schools, colleges, universities and other centres of learning.

In 2016/2017 the key objectives of the charity were to:

- Provide high quality creative experiences for children and young people that respond to needs identified by children and young people, parents and school staff;

- Develop and share the benefits of arts resources including the Arts Education Network, InspirED, and the Music Education Hub, Sound Foundation Somerset;

- Develop a partnership model of training and professional development for arts leaders.

Ethics, values, and philosophy

Spaeda believes that access to high quality arts activities is a fundamental right of all people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion and other signifiers. It values all art forms and all levels of participation and attainment. It recognises that participation in arts activity encourages self-expression and can increase self-esteem and wellbeing, as well as developing new skills, creativity and empathy.

Through its partnerships with a wide range of organisations and tailored programme planning Spaeda seeks to ensure its services are available to the widest possible audience.

Spaeda also welcomes people from all backgrounds to become involved in the governance of the charity and the delivery of its services. It does this through inclusive recruitment policies, induction and training.

Board and committee structure

Spaeda is governed by a Board of twelve Directors who are also the Trustees of the charity. Individual trustees have oversight of specific areas of work but there are currently no sub committees. We anticipate that this will change as more trustees are recruited following the recent review of governance.

The activity of the Board is governed by a Code of Conduct. Profiles of the current trustees are available on the website <http://www.spaeda.org.uk/node/18> .

Structure

Spaeda operates with a small staff, led by an artist director and a development manager (Part time). It currently also employs a project marketing administrator (Full time). It hires freelance contractors (associate artists/arts educators) to deliver projects as and when funding becomes available.

Funding

Spaeda is funded through a mixture of project funding, commissioned services and traded activity.

Since September 2013 it has been part of the inspirED consortium, a partnership between Somerset Film, Somerset Art Works, Take Art and Spaeda, funded by Somerset County Council Education Partnership Board to deliver a range of arts activities for publically funded schools in Somerset. Spaeda's key role in the partnership includes the management of subscriptions, enquiries from schools and partner organisations, the preparation and circulation of 6 e-bulletins a year, undertaking baselining visits to schools, and facilitating network meetings between schools to support arts education development within the context of school improvement, promote the consortium and provide advice on arts opportunities. In 2017/2018 the value of this contract is £30,000.

Spaeda is currently commissioned by Sound Foundation Somerset to support music provision in schools in the county. The audience engagement and communications activity funded by this contract includes the provision of termly e-bulletins to schools, music leaders and parents and the promotion of national schemes such as Artsmark and the Arts Award. The value of this contract is £30,000 a year. The contract is renewed on an annual basis.

Spaeda's CPD offer in 2017/2018 is enhanced by an Arts Council England's Grants for the Arts Funded project 'Switched on to art' to test collaborative CPD and action research models for arts education within the field of art and design. The project is drawing to a close and evaluation will capture the learning from the project to inform future services.

Further funding has been attained through Arts Council England's Catalyst Evolve fund for a development project that Spaeda leads on behalf of the inspirED partnership. The aim of this development project is to work with schools to increase their capacity and skills to fundraise for arts education activity.

Full details of Spaeda's income and expenditure can be found in the annual report for 2016/2017 available in this recruitment pack.

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