

The Lewisham Arts & Culture Pledge to Children & Young People

Context:

Lewisham's Cultural Strategy - *We are Lewisham 2022-2028* outlines a bold and inclusive vision for embedding culture at the heart of the community.

Involvement with culture is important to the imagination, self-expression and creativity, resilience, confidence, and transferable skills development in children and young people. It also develops the skills to grow the next generation of creative talent in Lewisham and beyond. (Lewisham Cultural Strategy – July 2023)

As part of the Lewisham's Cultural Strategy, schools, youth and children's services, and cultural organisations have joined together in a forum: the Lewisham Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP).

We call for all stakeholders working with children and young people to work together to ensure that all children and young people (CYP) in Lewisham have arts, creativity and culture as part of their lives, enhancing their confidence, wellbeing, aspirations, connection and agency.

The Pledge - Join with us and pledge that all children & young people in Lewisham:

- Have the opportunity to engage with rich arts & cultural experiences both within and beyond the classroom
- Are heard, and their voices are central to decisions in arts and cultural programming
- With their families, feel welcomed and have access to cultural places and creative activities which meet their changing needs
- Are provided with a range of relevant and accessible programmes by arts & cultural organisation from within and beyond the borough
- Have access to a range of experiences, information, and workplace opportunities which develop their creative talents and support careers pathways within the creative industries.
- Are signposted and encouraged to access arts & cultural opportunities by their teachers, youth workers, youth arts practitioners & artists.

LCEP Young Peoples Pledge finalised on 5 March 2025

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