

Creative Teacher Network: Freelands Foundation Project

>>Project Overview:

This three-year project partners local artists with eight teachers from eight schools in West Somerset, with the intention of empowering educators through skills building and learning, while developing and facilitating a supportive Teacher-Artist network. Sessions will emphasise promoting wellbeing and creative expression through art and collaborative creation.

The project so far:

Year 1 (Sept 2024 to July 2025) : Focused on developing a **community of connections** between the teachers and the local artist community to build friendship, enjoyment and belonging through a network of support;

Year 2 (Sept 2025 to July 2026) : Was about growing the **creative confidence** of teachers through self-expression and the co-development with artists of a toolkit of curriculum practices and shared resources;

We are now entering the third year of the project and are looking for an artist to fill one of the 8 spaces.

Year 3 (Sept 2026 to July 2027) : To **co-design creatively** ambitious projects for delivery in schools, collaboratively create a resource to be used in schools.

>>Structure of the Project :

There are 4 parts to the project for year 3.

Monthly sessions of developing a toolkit:

Each month Artist and Teachers will work in collaboration to develop ideas to be taken back into the classroom. Each artist will be tasked each term to explore a technique, discover ideas, artists and levels of the technique to then make it into an activity card. The sessions will follow a collaborative format of working 1 to 1 with a Teacher and also in small groups to develop ideas.

Artist Only sessions:

Each term the artists will meet for a creative session to develop ideas and support one another. There will also be a session each term to ensure we are all creating a cohesive resource.

In-School Art Wellbeing sessions for Teachers:

Once a Term each artist will need to plan and deliver a 1hr art wellbeing session for staff at a school or a parent and child session at a school. The times and dates for these are not yet scheduled; we will fit them in according to all the artist's availability.

In-School Art Project with students:

For the 3rd year of the project each artist will work closely with a school to plan and deliver an art project equivalent to 5 days, this project will be decided by the school. The artist will then work closely with the teacher to make sure it meets curriculum targets. The 5 days could be spread over the year or be in one chunk, depending on the school needs.

>>Benefits from the project for your own practice:

- Advice and guidance on running a creative session
- Opportunity to network with local schools and other artists
- Developing new art skills and building experimental idea forming
- Expand knowledge of working in creative education

>>What we are looking for:

- Artist based in West Somerset/Somerset
- Adaptability to changes in the project's progression, including potential adjustments to the sessions.
- A friendly and approachable manner to help develop a blended network of teachers and artists.
- Passionate about art and willing to share knowledge with others.
- Enthusiasm for and commitment to the overall aim of the project.
- Effective communication and good organisational/time management skills.
- Collaborative approach to working, able to work with Teachers to build confidence in the arts but also work together to develop a resource to be used in schools.
- Experimental and not afraid to learn and try something that is not your style. Everyone will be developing ideas outside their comfort zone to push creativity.
- Able to follow a brief and work to design formats.
- Experience working with young people on a collaborative art project

>>Time commitment for the project:

You need to be available for a session at East Quay 4.30-6.30pm on all the following dates

Term 1 - Autumn:

Wednesday 9th September 2026
Wednesday 23rd September 2026
Wednesday 14th October 2026
Wednesday 11th November 2026
Wednesday 2nd December 2026
Wednesday 16th December 2026

Term 2 - Spring:

Wednesday 6th January 2027
Wednesday 13th January 2027
Wednesday 10th February 2027
Wednesday 17th March 2027
Wednesday 24th March 2027

Term 3 - Summer:

Wednesday 14th April 2027
Wednesday 21st April 2027
Wednesday 19th May 2027
Wednesday 16th June 2027
Wednesday 30th June 2027
Wednesday 21st July 2027

There will also be some extra dates for the In-school Art Wellbeing sessions for Teachers (1 a term) and an In-school 5 day project (These are yet to be confirmed by the schools).

Deadlines for the Activity Cards to be completed (1 a term):

Monday 14th December 2026
Monday 22nd March 2027
Monday 28th June 2027

Here is the breakdown on the time commitment needed for the project.

	Hours	Event
T E R M 1 A U T U M N	4	Artist Session x 2
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: Intro and Format
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 1.1 (Led by Artists)
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session:1.2 (Led by Artists)
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session:1.3
	1	Planning In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child Session
	1	Delivery In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child session
	15	Independent Work outside of sessions: Developing ideas, Formatting and completing the Activity Cards
T E R M 2 S P R I N G	4	Artist Session x 2
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 2.1 (Led by Artists)
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 2.2 (Led by Artists)
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 2.3
	1	Delivery In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child session
	1	Delivery In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child session
	15	Independent Work outside of sessions: Developing ideas, Formatting and completing the Activity Cards
T E R M 3 S U M M E R	4	Artist Session x 2
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 3.2 (Led by Artists)
	2	Creative Teacher Network Session: 3.2 (Led by Artists)
	2	CreativeTeacher Network Session: 3.3
	2	Creative Feedback
	1	Delivery In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child session
	1	Delivery In-School Wellbeing session or a Parent/Child session
	15	Independent Work outside of sessions: Developing ideas,formatting and completing the Activity Cards
	40	In-school project (total 5 days could be in one chunk or spread over the year)
	19	Prep for in school project

>>Payment:

You will be paid each term in relation to the amount of time spent on the project. The total payment will be £5400, which is equivalent to 144hrs. We expect full commitment from participating artists, but we understand that circumstances may change. Please inform us of any changes and your ability to continue with the project. Depending on the stage of the project, we may need to find a replacement artist, and payment will be adjusted accordingly. Selected artists will receive a contract to sign. We are looking for an Artist based in manageable travel distance from Watchet and West Somerset as Transport costs are not covered separately, they are included in the total payment provided to each artist. All selected artists will receive the same payment for the project.

Payment Dates:

Thursday 17th December 2026

Thursday 25th March 2027

Thursday 22nd July 2027

If you are interested please apply [HERE](#). We have a short deadline, Friday 28th August at 9am.

Any questions about the project or if you need any adjustments for the application process please call Thea at East Quay on 01984 263103

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