

HAMPSHIRE YOUNG CREATIVES WITH GLENWOOD SPECIAL SCHOOL & DANCE UP



The People

Hampshire Young Creatives
Glenwood Special School, Emsworth
Dance Up (formerly Hampshire Dance)

The Project

The aim of the project was to deliver 10 creative dance sessions to pupils at Glenwood Special School, Emsworth. The sessions were co-delivered in school time, with a focus on health – looking at positive and social interaction through the medium of dance. The sessions developed each week with a new theme and the group began to work towards creating a dance piece to share with the rest of the school.

Successes

- The participants showed good commitment to the project and were engaged throughout the sessions. The head teacher Phil Johnson remarked on how self-motivated they were, all remembering their PE kits on the right day which was unusual for them.
- The young people displayed good teamwork skills and developed good relationships. They were supportive to each other throughout the project.
- The creative dance approach worked really well. The young people showed a lot of initiative in the sessions, and this enabled everyone to work to the full potential in a comfortable and safe environment.

Challenges

- At the beginning of the project, there wasn't any consistent teaching support in the sessions.
- The timetabling of the sessions meant that people were arriving late from other subjects.

However, these issues were rectified during the early stages of the project.

Suggested improvements for future projects

- The artists would be clearer in the planning meeting with the school that teaching support is definitely needed through the sessions.

Recommendations for other organisations doing similar projects

- To make sure that timetabling works around other activities within the school.
- The school had initially said that the young people wouldn't be very responsive so the artists planned the sessions in a particular way, only to find out that the young people were very responsive, so they did a lot of re-planning.

The creative dance approach worked really well. The young people showed initiative and were able to work to their full potential in a comfortable and safe environment.



How could the project partners best support this kind of work in the future?

- Further provision and progression routes for those young people who showed interest.
- To include the Arts Award, but more time is needed for this than we had during this project timescale.

Credits

Taken from: Hampshire Young Creatives Development Programme 2012/13 Report and Recommendations

Edited by: Laura J. Smith
Artswork
laura@artswork.org.uk

www.artswork.org.uk

