

Monday 1 November 2021

FAO: Parents of Y5/6 children - Creativity Collaboratives Trial

Dear Parent/Carer

Over several years, the role and value of Creativity in Education has been part of ongoing debate and experimentation, informing and shaping classroom practice and curriculum delivery in Primary Schools. Byers Green Primary School believe creativity is an important part of school life and we encourage all of our students to be creative in their schoolwork.

A recent key recommendation from the Durham Commission report to encourage creativity in schools is now a reality with the establishment of a pilot National Creativity Collaboratives programme. Schools have been chosen to test a range of innovative practices in teaching for creativity. Those taking part will co-design and test out approaches to teaching and learning, and most importantly evaluate their impact on pupils and the broader school community.

Durham University, our well-regarded local University is involved in a research evaluation project in partnership with Arts Council England to evaluate the impact the pilot Creativity Collaborative programme.

As a long-time trusted partner and critical friend to the University, Byers Green Primary School is helping in designing the online research surveys for the evaluation project. It is important to test out and provide valuable feedback to the University's research team and we are delighted to be taking part in the survey trial. Our teachers and pupils will be the first to complete the surveys asking us about creativity in our school and we wanted to reassure you the information we give will only be available to the research team and no names of teachers or pupils will be collected. Our feedback will be used to support Durham University in creating research materials that work for schools.

However, you may not want your child/children to be part of the survey trial. If you don't want your child/children at Byers Green Primary School to take part, could you please email byersgreen@durhamlearning.net (by **Wednesday 3 November**) and we will ensure they do not complete the online survey.

Thank you on behalf of Byers Green Primary School and Durham University.



Dr Helen Cramman

Assistant Professor (Research), School of Education, Durham University

More information about the Creativity Collaboratives programme can be found at <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/children-and-young-people/creativity-collaboratives>

More information about the Durham Commission For Creativity and Education Report (2019) can be found at <https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/creativitycommission/DurhamReport.pdf>