

MAKE Southwest

Partner Report

2022-2023



The partnership between MAKE Southwest and the National Saturday Club has delivered an inspirational first year of the Saturday Club for young people in your local community.

Throughout the year-long programme, these young people have connected with dedicated and inspiring educators at your institution and have gained access to the valuable resources and facilities you have to offer. This opportunity has been further supported by the national programme of events including the London Visit to cultural institutions, Masterclasses with industry, Graduation Ceremonies and the Summer Show.

Across the country, this extracurricular education movement is embodied by a powerful network of partners from the education, industry and the cultural sectors. Collectively, the network is committed to engaging young people from underrepresented backgrounds at an early stage in their learning journey. The programme framework has proven impact. It enables institutions to develop their civic engagement by engaging young people within the local community, reducing barriers to access, developing young people's vital practical skills and creative capacities, and inspiring them with the breadth of pathways open to them both at your institution and in their future careers.

The following pages highlight the successes of the Craft&Making Saturday Club at MAKE Southwest in 2022-23, which were also celebrated at the National Saturday Club Summer Show at London's prestigious Somerset House in July 2023. In this document, we have drawn together evidence from our evaluation findings to demonstrate the reach and impact of your Club.

MAKE Southwest Craft&Making Saturday Club

Tutors and Staff

Ian Wilkins
Imogen Macculloch
Janet Short
Kelsie Burns
Luke Shepherd
Molly Rooke
Paul Harris
Richard Glass
Rosie Stiling
Sabine Nemet

Supported by Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust, Craft&Making Saturday Club provides an invaluable insight into the craft sector and wider industries. Developing specialist techniques and hand-making skills, Club members gain an understanding of the importance of traditional craft, and how new technologies are keeping the sector relevant in the modern world.

In their 'hands-on' approach to the year, MAKE Southwest Craft&Making Saturday Club members covered the disciplines of collage, bookbinding, ceramics, plaster casting, printmaking, embroidery, and glassblowing. Members had the opportunity to develop their skills in craft and foster their creativity in a friendly and supportive environment.



“It has been a pleasure to have worked with such a bright and enthusiastic group of young people. I hope that you all continue to use your head, heart, and hands to create and make, no matter what path you take in your future.”

Ian Wilkins, Club tutor, message to Club members

Club member demographics

60%
from a Widening Participation background*

40%
have a neurodivergence

33%
do not have a parent who has been to university

27%
have special educational needs

14%
live in the 30% most deprived areas in England (IMD)

13%
have a disability

7%
receive free school meals

7%
have caring responsibilities (are a young carer)

7%
are from an underrepresented ethnic background

“ I loved the Craft&Making Saturday Club and I wish it was longer. Other than that, I wouldn't change anything. ”

Club member



*The National Saturday Club identifies young people to be from a widening participation (WP) background if they: receive free school meals; have experience of the care system; speak English as an additional language; experience disability; parents/ guardians haven't been to university; are refugees or asylum seekers; are young carers; are from a military family; are from an underrepresented ethnic background; have special educational needs; have a neurodiversity; are D/deaf or hard of hearing; Are from a Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showman or Boating community; and/ or those who live in the 30% most deprived areas [Index of Multiple Deprivation].



“ The glassblowing session at Teign Valley Glass was a once in a lifetime experience! I loved learning about the craft, and I hope I can do it again someday. ”

Club member

Weekly classes

86%
found the classes engaging

100%
found the atmosphere at the Club welcoming and inclusive

100%
agreed that the tutors were supportive and approachable

86%
said they had access to specialist equipment through their weekly classes

86%
said the Club fulfilled their expectations

Impact

86%
said their passion for the subject has increased because of the Club

86%
would recommend the Saturday Club to a friend

71%
found that attending has improved their outlook on the future

57%
have grown in confidence

57%
enjoy working with other people more

43%
have got better at communicating their ideas

“I’ve met amazing people I wouldn’t have known otherwise.”

Club member

Creativity

Out of the five creative capacities* Club members were asked which two creative capacities that they had most improved at the Saturday Club.

86%

noticed improvements in their creative capacities:

Collaboration



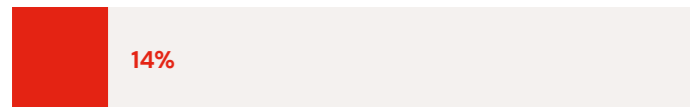
Imagination



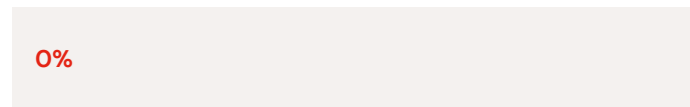
Persistence



Inquisitiveness



Discipline



* Lucas, Spencer and Claxton's model distills creativity to five capacities: imagination, inquisitiveness, persistence, collaboration and discipline: Teaching Creative Thinking: Developing Learners Who Generate Ideas and Can Think Critically (Pedagogy for a Changing World), Crown House, 2018

Skills and broader understanding of subject

86%

felt that their skills have improved

71%

have been introduced to culture, ideas and/or people that have inspired them

43%

have a greater understanding of the breadth of areas and disciplines in Craft&Making

“ Saturday Club is so much about exploring ideas without boundaries. ”

Club member

Progression, Careers, Study

86%

say their future plans have been influenced by the Saturday Club

86%

have a better understanding of the study and learning options available to them

71%

know more about jobs and careers that are available

71%

have left the Club wanting a job within Craft&Making
14% are unsure

14%

plan to apply to courses at Make South West
71% were unsure

71%

are considering studying a related subject at college or 6th form (16+)
29% were unsure

57%

are considering studying a related subject at university (18+)
29% were unsure, and 14% said no

“ It was during the Masterclass when I realised just how achievable and realistic a career in art is. It has always been a big dream of mine since I was a kid. Hearing the Masterclass giver talk about it made me feel like it could really happen. ”

Club member



Interview with a Club member

Evie, MAKE Southwest Craft&Making Saturday Club member

What does Craft&Making mean to you?

Expressing yourself through as many different mediums as possible with a hand-on, physical approach. I really like creating things that are 3D because there's so much more of yourself you can fit into a creation.

What was it that sparked your interest in a Craft&Making Saturday Club?

It was the idea of doing different things that I could never do at home or at school. Craft&Making requires a lot of materials and expertise to do such creative and amazing things, but outside of the Saturday Club there aren't enough resources. Also, it's really nice to be in a space where everyone wants to be there too, and there's so much you can do with it – Craft&Making is all-encompassing.

What inspires you?

I seek inspiration from my friends. I think that's why I enjoy the Saturday Club so much, because there's just so much inspiration to be found from the people around you, especially when they're like-minded and you can trust them to understand, listen and give you good ideas.

How would you describe Saturday Club in three words?

There are so many words that you could use, but I think I'd choose experiment, fluidity and expression, because Saturday Club is so much about exploring ideas without boundaries.

If there's one thing that you could make better in the world what would it be?

I could answer this on a wider scale, with regard to climate change and world hunger, but I think on a smaller scale I'd choose access to arts and crafts. I think the world would just be a better place if everyone had the freedom to create and express themselves creatively.

What's the best thing about being 15?

Probably the social opportunities. As you get older there's more freedom to meet people outside of school, and you can try new creative things through meeting them. There's a lot more independence and discovery for the first time.

How would you describe the MAKE Southwest Craft&Making Saturday Club?

During our first week everyone was obviously like quite nervous, but since then, after going every week, it's been so much better. I've met amazing people I wouldn't have known otherwise. Everyone laughs and jokes around – it just makes everything so much more fun. There's so much joy in seeing them every week and knowing that they're all like-minded people who enjoy the same things as me.

What are your next steps?

There are short term goals I'm aiming for, for example my final piece for Art, but I also really want to play in a band and do more sports. Right now, it's just about taking the things that I enjoy further and finding new hobbies to love.

“ I felt really inspired by the ceramics – and it was also inspiring that it was a woman doing it. ”

Club member

“ The Club has helped me get out of a long artistic block; I feel inspired to make art again. ”

Club member





Interview with a Club member

Amelia, MAKE Southwest Craft&Making Saturday Club member

What was it that sparked your interest in a Craft&Making Saturday Club?

I'm really into art, so to learn about different kinds of craftsmanship sounded really interesting. I had done a little bit of woodwork before, but I wanted to explore it more and find new ways to channel my creativity.

Which of your Saturday Club projects have you enjoyed the most?

Definitely the lino cutting and printmaking Masterclass with Bonfield Block-Printers. It was amazing and I'd never done it before. Afterwards I went and bought my own starter set because I liked it so much. Cameron and Janet talked to us about how we could make use of lino printing in a business, and it made that kind of career seem more achievable. When I was younger people kept telling me that you can't live off art with stability, so hearing Cameron and Janet was really motivating.

How would you describe your Saturday Club experience in three words?

Interesting, fun, and creative. It's interesting hearing from all of the artists that come in, like how they started and what they're inspired by. I love going to Saturday Club and doing things with other people who feel the same, it helps me feel more creative.

Did you feel a sense of community at your Saturday Club?

Yeah, definitely. It's just really nice. During the first couple sessions, we didn't really know each other, but then I was making friends and now I've got some good friends because we all have a common interest in art. Sometimes they mixed up where we were sat and I didn't mind because everyone's so nice and friendly and you can always make conversation.

Have you experienced any break-through moments at your Saturday Club?

I think the biggest one was during the Masterclass, when I realised just how achievable and realistic a career in art is. It has always been a big dream of mine since I was a kid. Hearing the Masterclass giver talk about it made me feel like it could really happen. I could go home and set up an online art shop at any time. I've learnt that art is inclusive of everyone.

In terms of your future, what do you think your next steps are?

I think art college or a college that has a really good art department. More long term, I'm thinking I'd quite like to be an art director in the stage or film industry, which I didn't really realise was a job until recently. And I hope to make lots and lots of projects along the way and enter some competitions.

What does Craft&Making mean to you?

Innovation, because it's a different way to explore art in a 3D form. As well as being able to make functional things like spoons, you're also able to make art pieces. I like that you can make something to hold and feel.

Masterclass with Bonfield Block-Printers

In a Bonfield Block-Printers Masterclass led by Cameron Short, Craft&Making Saturday Club members from MAKE Southwest explored traditional printmaking techniques. After a demonstration from Cameron, Club members began carving individual letters using lino printing. Together the letters spelled 'WE <3 SATURDAY CLUB'. After familiarising themselves with lino cutting techniques, Club members were then able to create and print their own designs.

100%

enjoyed the Masterclass and found meeting industry professionals inspiring

80%

learnt something new during the Masterclass

80%

gained a better understanding of job roles and career possibilities

80%

gained a better understanding of how their new skills can be transferred into the future world of work



Bonfield Block-Printers was founded by artists Cameron Short and Janet Tristram. Their offering includes block-printed furniture, artisanal garments and bags, hand-printed linens, cushions, lampshades and editions on paper. Their imagery is rooted in our deep affection for the countryside, its rituals and folklore and bygone rural life.





“ I valued learning a new skill and being able to hear, from the first person point of view, just what life is like as an independent artist, doing art as a full-time career. It was extremely inspiring to see. ”

Club member

“ The lino-cutting and printmaking Masterclass with Bonfield Block-Printers was amazing and I'd never done it before. Afterwards I went and bought my own starter set because I liked it so much. Cameron and Janet talked to us about how we could make use of lino printing in a business, and it made that kind of career seem more achievable. ”

Club member

Summer Show and Graduation Ceremonies

The culmination of the Saturday Club year is a public exhibition of Club members' work at London's prestigious Somerset House and end-of-year Graduation Ceremonies.

Summer Show

The Summer Show took place from 15–18 July and it was a joyous celebration of the year's achievements. Each Club had their own display, curated by expert exhibition designers, to showcase their Club members' work. Special events were hosted including Private Views for Club members and a VIP Private View for network guests, industry, the cultural sector, government and policy-makers.

Graduation Ceremonies

Graduation Ceremonies were hosted at Bush House, King's College London. These provided an important moment for Club members to recognise their achievements throughout the programme and to look ahead to future possibilities. During the ceremonies, tutors and inspiring guest speakers addressed the young people and each Club member received a Certificate of Achievement, in front of their family, friends, peers and tutors.

“I think the Summer Show is a significant and valuable aspect of the National Saturday Club for the young people it serves. The opportunity for Club members to see their work in a professional context and to celebrate with their parents/ guardians and tutors is incredibly rewarding for them. It builds confidence and is a meaningful way to celebrate their achievements and what they have learnt throughout the programme.”

Ian Wilkins, Tutor, MAKE Southwest

The Summer Show is also presented as an online exhibition: show.saturday-club.org



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Designed by Pentagram
Produced by Studio Quercus

Supported using public funding by

