

Fresh Air Sculpture 2024 delivered 15 fully-funded workshops over the three weeks of the show (June 17th to July 5th 2024) to schools and colleges as well as 15 self-led afternoon visits to local primary and secondary schools in the area. We saw **283 children** attending the workshops and nearly **700 children** in total visiting the show and using the educational resources provided. The schools varied from Special Schools (7) Secondary Schools (6) and Primary Schools (12) in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Oxfordshire and this year we were delighted to welcome back, after many years, The National Star College.

Planning and arrangements

We have found over the 20 years that we have been running the Education Program for Fresh Air Sculpture that contact and planning is essential for the smooth running and provision of correct support for the vulnerable children that are at the centre of our selection process. The Teachers Tea is one of these arrangements where teachers and support staff are invited to a pre visit at The Old Rectory to carry out a risk assessment and chat through with the education team about logistics for their visit.

Educational Resources

This year in 2024 we continued to build on the project from previous years that involved exhibiting artists to be part of the education program. We asked them to create educational activities based on their sculpture; these were shared with visiting schools, print outs provided at The Teachers Tea and all uploaded to our resources section of the website; it was really well received by all, in particular Southrop Primary School, used many of these resources to create a wonderful and inspirational Art exhibition of their own which was wonderful to see and we hope to build on these resources for next year.



Guest Tutors

We were delighted to invite 4 visiting Guest Tutors to our program, each bringing a unique and new approach to teaching. Each of the Guest Tutors had a specialism and the Education Team worked carefully to match their skill set to the school group that they taught. Alison Lam, a neurodiverse Artist ran a truly incredible workshop with Brook Academy with a focus on supporting Neurodiversity in Art; Juli Bharucha, an experienced Ceramicist brought her knowledge of working in secondary schools to Dorkan Academy and gave many secondary school students their first experience of clay. Alice Jennings, brought a unique multi-sensory approach to her clay and sound workshop with The Peak Academy and Esme Walker from The Kings Foundation brought her knowledge of plaster restoration to a truly wonderful collaborative workshop for Watermoor Primary School.



National Star College

Since Covid, National Star College have been hesitant to arrange art visits out of the college, as their students have complex needs that need resources to support access and care. We starting liasing with old contacts in the college and quickly established new links with teachers in the college who needed the necessary reassurance that the visit and workshop would be well managed. We arranged a pre visit for these teachers to carry out a risk assessment and chat through the logistics of the day. We established we would have 9 students visiting, all 1-2-1 or 2-2-1 that we would require full changing facilities in the disabled toilets; we were able to arrange and fully fund the provision of changing facilities and toilets which they said made a huge difference to the visit and the enjoyment of the students (and staff).



Outreach work

We ran three wonderful outreach projects in 2023 (a non show year) for Primary, Secondary and Special schools, which were exhibited at the Fresh Air Sculpture show this year; our plans are to work with new and exciting projects in 2025 as demand is high for provision of Art in a non-judgemental and inclusive environment.



Impact study

It's a challenge to run an Impact Study for the effectiveness of this project as it's subjective and often captured in the individual experiencing Art delivered in our workshops and simply being the magic of Fresh Air Sculpture. You can see from our pupil voice and teachers feedback, the impact and importance of their visits.

Thank you for the trip, it was absolutely fab and the children came back buzzing from it.

The art workshop in the afternoon was also super and the children were extremely proud of their work – the staff who ran this were lovely in the way they gently encouraged and teased out ideas from some of our more shy children.

Isbourne Vale Primary School

The activities were a good idea as you could get into it and become an artist yourself – taking part not just watching.

Southrop School

All of the staff were fantastic and really supportive, the whole show was amazingly well put together in an amazing setting and everyone loved it, so thank you. Pupil voice quotes: “Amazing” “The massive whoopie cushions were the best bit” “The FOX!” “The turtle and all the animals”

Paternoster

Please look at our new film on our website as well as the resources.

My students have had a wonderful experience both with the exhibition and the workshop. It has been so inspiring for them and amazing to see them all confidently working away on their portals.

Malmesbury School

Students state that this was one of the best workshops they have been able to access and are grateful for the kind and supportive guidance from Juli. Thank you, again, for inviting us. It is a rare and unique opportunity for our students to gain access to such a brilliant venue.

Dorkan Academy

I enjoyed the workshops, particularly the clay most. The paper was really thick and you couldn't get a straight line.

The Brook Academy

We would like to thank all of the wonderful donors that support Quenington Sculpture Trust to provide this incredible Education Program

If you are interested in being a part of our outreach work, visiting the show in 2026 or donating to this exciting education program, please email Emily Bird education@freshairsculpture.com