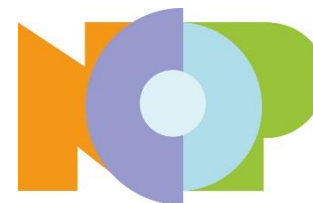# Frameworks for engaging young people beyond school engagement

Debra Vice-Holt

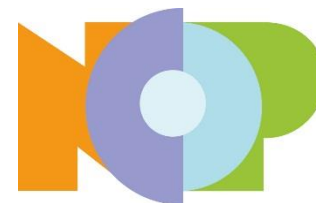**Innovation Fund Project Manager**

What are we doing?
Innovation Fund

- Collaborative projects between groups of people that have a research and practical interest in increasing under represented young people's participation in Higher Education

- Sought applications from partnerships that bring together community knowledge with academic perspectives to support young people

- Up to £8000 available per project

- To be eligible partnerships had to involve an academic from either the Universities of Brighton, Sussex or Chichester as well as a local community organisation

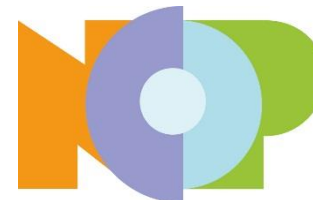**National Collaborative Outreach Programme**

Why are we doing this?

- Look at different ways of engaging with target young people

- Support academic staff to research and publish in widening participation

- Increase capacity in the community sector to work with targeted young people

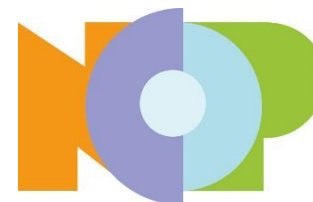- To develop new methods of engagement for dissemination

How are we doing this?

- **Bid process**
  - Community University Partnership Programme
  - December application deadline, work completed by end of September 2018
  - Panel for decision making

- **Successful applications**
  - 8 projects
  - Initial meetings with each project
  - Service level agreements with KPIs and itemised budgets

How will we use the outcomes?

- Share good practice throughout the process

- Community of Practice

- Evaluation of collaborative process
  - What difference has the collaboration had on the community group and educational institution

- Production of conference papers, articles, films, books etc

- Upskilling of community groups
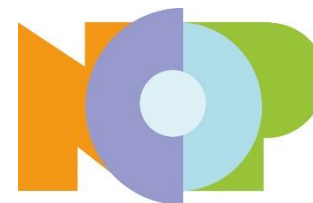
- October conference

The projects - 1

Beyond the School Gates

University of Sussex, University of Portsmouth, West Sussex Parent and Carer Forum

- students who have been excluded from or refuse to attend secondary education
- collaborate with former students, parents and partner organisations
- develop an accredited mentoring service for parents and excluded students to draw on their own and wider resources to meet their developmental, wellbeing and education needs and re-engage education
- academic publication

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The projects - 2

LGBTQ Youth and Access to HE

University of Brighton, University of Sussex, Allsorts Youth Project

- a youth perspective on the challenges young LGBTQ people face in accessing HE in the UK
- young peoples voice and empowers young LGBTQ individuals via:
  - a set of advocacy films produced by young people aimed at peer audiences to be published online
  - research report based on the workshop materials which explore young people's experiences and perceptions, interviews with current HE students, and interviews with stakeholders that influence young people's career choices and education
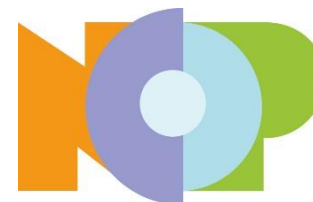
The projects - 3

Graffiti, Comics and Outsider Arts

University of Chichester, Outside In, Pallant House Gallery

- introduce learners to the world of popular visual culture - graffiti, comics and untrained art
- test whether using non-traditional visual sources motivates and captures the imagination of the participants and supports application to HE
- Conference for teachers and academics
- Publication of outcomes

The projects - 4

Growing STEM

University of Chichester, West Sussex Family Centres

- give young parents the skills and tools to facilitate learning outside and at home with their children with a focus on STEM

- engage parents and their toddlers with practical activities

- CPD for family centre staff

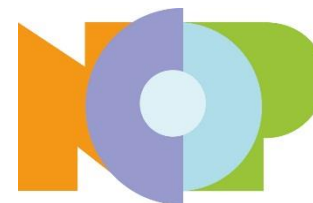- dissemination of work to inform work with younger age ranges

The projects - 5

Care Leavers Reaching HE

University of Brighton, The Bridge

- identify strategies that can be implemented by Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) and its partners to increase the number of Brighton and Hove care leavers attending and remaining at university for the duration of their course
- inform practice with Children in Care (years 9-12) and Care Leavers (years 12-13) up to the age of 19

The projects - 6

Sussex Writes

University of Sussex, Little Green Pig, Beacon Academy

- student led creative writing workshops to support and develop students in Years 9-11 who are working towards the writing assessment in GCSE examinations
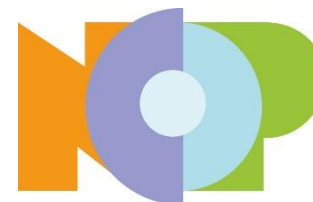- development and dissemination of learning packs
- sharing of best practice

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The projects - 7

Raising educational aspirations participatory action research

Greater Brighton Metropolitan College, Audioactive University of Brighton

- action research to identify attitudinal shifts to education and tracking the participants to monitor and evaluate the impact of the interventions
- link non-formal with formal education
- young people from the target demographic write and record an EP using 'Identity' as a theme
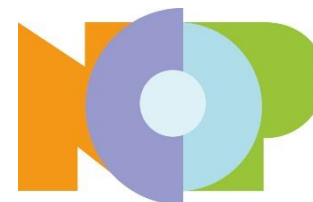- embedded 1:1 IAG in project and one to one mentoring

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The projects - 8

School to HE for refugees

University of Sussex, Sanctuary of Sea, Hummingbird Project

- experiences of RBS and their families to identify new ideas and new approaches for supporting progression to HE
- working with peer researchers to provide role models to RBS in schools
- advisory group
- produce an online resource that will support teachers and staff in schools and colleges better understand the perceptions and needs of this group
- recommendations for dissemination

Where we are now

- All project are in progress

- Providing practical support
  - Research / evaluation
  - Changes to initial plans
  - Linking projects to other local and national initiatives

- Planning for July Community of Practice and October conference

- New round of funding?