

Meaningful Learning Experiences

Strategic Commitment	✓	Part of a regional, ESF-funded 'Careers Local' programme
Curriculum Provision	✓	Showcase incentive for students' course work
Employer Partnerships	✓	Providing display material for a community art gallery
Reflective Young People		
Informed Career Choices	✓	Showing how young artists develop their careers

Showcase for year 11 Art & Design students at community contemporary art gallery

The project was one of two presented to students at Bramcote College in Nottingham who were studying GCSE Art & Design (Photography). The GCSE specification requires students to, *'Present personal, imaginative final outcomes, together with selective evidence of thinking and production processes, that effectively realise the student's stated intentions or a design brief ...'*

The teacher brief for the project described an ideal outcome, *'For students to produce work with a real purpose and to take pride and ownership of what they've done. To successfully produce an image(s) for a specification using the skills they have learned in lesson'.*

Surface Gallery is the local, volunteer-led, Contemporary Art gallery of Nottingham and regularly hosts shows displaying the work of emerging photographers. The gallery has two large display areas, but 'Le Louvre' is an alternative display area in the working bathroom and toilet area. The gallery director gave permission for year 11 students to display their best work, explaining in a short video message that he was looking for work that was, 'a little bit experimental ... innovative and ... thinking outside-the-box'.

The display was open for two weeks towards the end of the summer term, when the school was able to celebrate students' achievements with more than a GCSE certificate.

Benefits for the Students

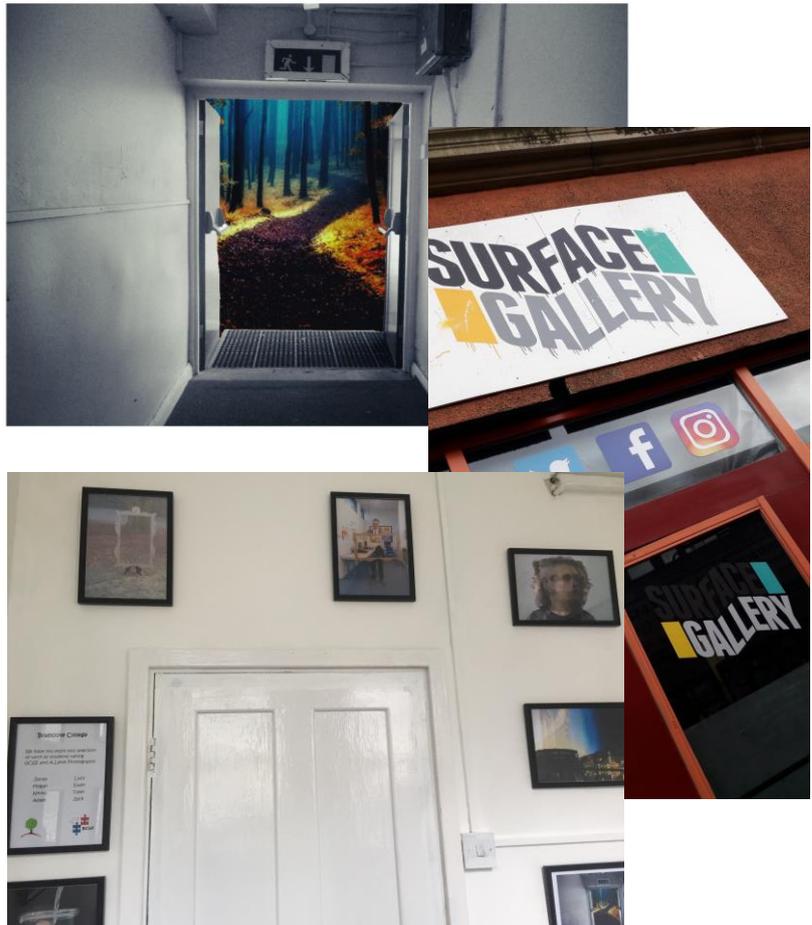
- A public display in a public gallery involved a degree of risk for students, who therefore thought carefully about the merits of work they chose to be put on the walls
- The main displays, along with video input from young artists working in the gallery, provided inspiration for students considering further study in Art and Design
- *'It was an experience and it was really fun'*
- *'People are going to judge [the photographs]'*
- *'Imagine if we inspired people. That would be seriously good'*

Benefits for the School

- Information in the gallery explained that the work on display was by students from Bramcote College, helping to promote the achievements of its students
- The college had not previously worked with The Surface Gallery, which is a community exhibition space and offers potential for further partnership working
- The school had already invested in frames and other display materials for use in the school. So, this project used the same equipment to reach a much wider audience

Benefits for the Employer

The Surface Gallery operates as a social enterprise celebrating and supporting the talent in our city, with a focus on engaging the immediate community and broadening participation in the arts. This project therefore created an opportunity to show that it was encouraging interest in school-age students from a local school by providing a real display area for their creative work.



Year 11 students studying GCSE Art & Design (Photography) were given an opportunity to have their best work displayed in the small 'Le Louvre' exhibition space at The Surface Gallery, a local community gallery located in Nottingham's growing Creative Quarter.