

FORMAT for CASE COLLECTION (WP2)

SECTION 1 (cover page): Introduction (in English)

Name of the Case

COOL MUSIC (Community Orientated and Opportunity Learning MUSIC PROJECT)

Abstract

Based on the transformative potential of the arts to improve health outcomes and increase levels of social participation, the objective of COOL Music is to engage troubled young people (aged 10-21) to create opportunities for equal development and innovative inclusion. COOL Music is being delivered by GCU and a community interest company, Heavy Sound. Initial findings indicate that participants demonstrate improved well-being, skills development, and levels of engagement at school and in their communities.

Website

https://www.gcu.ac.uk/gsbs/news/article/?news_i=237921

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SECTION 2: Case description

COOL MUSIC (Community Orientated and Opportunity Learning MUSIC PROJECT)

Objectives

COOL MUSIC's objective is to engage troubled young people and to create opportunities for equal development and innovative inclusion. COOL MUSIC is designed to support wellbeing through personal development, alternative approaches to education/literacy, learning new skills for life and employment. By doing so it aims to help young people realise their potential and positively transform their life.

Clients, audience

Young people aged between ten and 21 from deprived communities.

Position along the SI Spiral

The project is building on previous research that identified the transformative potential of the arts to improve health outcomes and increase levels of social participation. As a stand-alone project, offering an alternative approach, COOL Music is positioned at develop & test and making the case on the SI spiral.

Relationship with HEI(s) (High Education Institutions)

COOL Music is delivered by GCU and Heavy Sound, a community interest company. The relationship is ongoing and a Stage 2 project under the Social Innovation Fund, a Scottish Government initiative that promotes collaboration between academia and the Third Sector/social economy to begin to improve ways in which impact is measured. If the project continues to be a success, there are plans to develop a larger programme for mainstream education as well as communities and secure units/special schools in other geographical locations and prisons.

The collaboration allows GCU to research a SI project in action, to understand outcomes and impact over time. As part of the project, GCU provides expertise to critically assess the activities of Heavy Sound, providing resources and considering the project in a comparative context- a real benefit to the CIC involved.

Heavy Sound was delivering similar programmes prior to COOL Music.

Finance model and resources

COOL Music is funded through the European Social Fund and the Scottish Government.

Methodology

The project is being delivered across two schools with 'secure' and 'special' status and in two communications with high levels of deprivation. Participants attend one-to-one sessions with tutors who negotiate participants' learning outcomes on an individual basis flexible to the requirements of the learner and context.

Products, results

Initial findings support previous research that identifies the transformative potential of arts and music. The project will produce publications and future plans include scaling up and introducing similar projects in further secure units in other geographical locations and prisons.

Impact and results

Project is at an early stage but GCU researchers are collating indicators of impact and are responsible for monitoring and evaluation.

Overall impact

Early findings indicate that involvement in the project has a positive impact on the participants' well-being, skills and levels of engagement.

Images



Source: https://www.gcu.ac.uk/gsbs/news/article/?news_i=237921





social innovation
through knowledge
exchange



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Source: <http://www.heavysoundcic.co.uk/#heavysound-welcome>

Other resources

Please feel free to add any other information you may find useful.