

## ART + TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM



Fermywood Contemporary Art fuses two distinct parts of the curriculum, art and technology, in ways children find exciting, teachers find developmental and Ofsted find impressive.

We work with national and international artists to ensure the work we bring to your school is at the cutting edge of practice. The quality of our provision to schools is regarded as “outstanding” and is the result of always challenging ourselves to innovate rather than replicate. Our workshops are tailored to your needs and those of your pupils and that means your pupils get a unique experience ensuring the learning “sticks”.

Based on our experience of working with schools for nearly a decade we have brought our work under three headings to give you an idea of the possibilities when we bring Art + Technology together in your classroom.

### CREATING AN AUDIENCE



Art helps us to see the familiar in new ways and technology helps to facilitate that new perspective; and artist Kathy Hinde’s ECHO LOCATION SOUND MAP is an example of bringing art and technology together to do just that. Pupils engaged in the sound map work as researchers, creators, performers and finally as audience.

The ECHO LOCATION SOUND MAP is a participatory online and offline artwork that combines walking, listening, audio ecology, social networking and graphic scores.

Pupils from Boughton Primary, working towards their Arts Award, worked first as researchers exploring the sonic landscape of the school and its surrounding area, recording samples that were later uploaded to the internet via Audioboo.

They then listened to their recordings, tagging the uploaded sounds with words that helped define the sound. The location of these sounds was marked geographically so pupils could sonically retrace, and explain, their earlier exploration of the environment. The final results were made viewable online worldwide where they were able to ‘play the map’ generating music and representing a familiar world sonically.

## DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION



Young people are consummate consumers and users of technology but getting them to think about the design of the tools they use can be a challenge, unless you make those tools out of vegetables!

Pupils are asked to consider the ergonomics of technology by considering “what if’s”. By utilising Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s MAKEY MAKEY device and SCRATCH software pupils are asked

“What if a vegetable could replace a mouse?”

“What if your stairs could become an instrument?”

Pupils learn how to construct their own circuits to create electronic sounds from tomatoes, leaves, soil - even marmite sandwiches in order to create their own musical piece. Things defined as one thing are suddenly transformed into something completely different as the function fulfilled by a computer mouse is replaced by spring onions.

## MAKING + MATERIALS



We bring Art + Technology together for pupils to become creators rather than simply consumers or users. We do this by emphasising the processes that underpins both.

During their Arts Week pupils from Irthlingborough Infant School were introduced to child-friendly 3D modelling software, to create lifelike bulls.

Pupils played the role of a 3D printer, cutting out slices of cardboard which, when assembled, produced two three dimensional bulls. As an Arts Award Centre we were able to work with the entire Year 2 cohort, and help pupils achieve an Arts Award Discover qualification.

The above is designed to give you a flavour of the artistically unique and technologically innovative nature of the work we offer schools - further examples from our education programme are on our website.

After reading the above you may be clear about how you’d like to work with us, or you may like what you’ve read but are unsure what it might mean for your students. Either way we’d be happy to have a conversation as our work starts with understanding your needs, so please drop us a line or gives us a call.

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“Fermywoods ... quite clearly delivers excellent arts programmes.”

Ed Vaizey  
Minister for Culture and the Digital Economy