



Arts & Culture Passport

Information for Parents and Participants

What is it?

The passport aims to enable and encourage children, young people and adults, to enjoy engaging with the arts and culture. Passport holders collect a stamp for attending an arts or cultural event (attendance stamp), or taking part in an activity (participation stamp).

Examples of an attendance stamp include: listening to a concert; visiting an art gallery or museum, watching a dance show, seeing a play or a theatre show.

Examples of a participation stamp include: performing in a concert; creating a painting or sculpture; taking part in a dance workshop; acting in a play or one of the technical team.

Who checks the evidence?

Schools will often be the organisation encouraging children to take up the challenge of the passport. Other bodies, such as youth groups, arts groups, clubs, museums or similar organisations could do so as well. The school or organisation will be responsible for assessing whether a stage has been completed by scrutinising the evidence file provided by the passport holder.

What activities count?

The definition of 'arts and culture' has deliberately not been tightly defined so as to be as broad and inclusive as possible. The school or organisation will decide if a particular activity qualifies, taking into account the age and ability of the person. Portsmouth Music Hub will moderate a proportion of the completed stages to maintain consistency.

What about normal class lessons?

Activities that take place in school as part of the normal day-to-day curriculum do not count as a stamp but special opportunities, even if organised by the school such as a museum visit, would count. After-school clubs or other activities that children have to opt into would also qualify.

What age groups is it aimed at?

The passport has 5 stages so that children can take part from around the age of four. Stage 1 requires just 5 stamps to be collected plus a reflection whereas Stage 5 is much more demanding and requires 40 stamps plus other activities including a leadership challenge. You can find out full information about the scheme from Portsmouth Music Hub's website: www.portsmouthmusicclub.org/passport

How can my child take part if the school has not signed up to the scheme?

Tell the school your child wants to take part and ask the school to sign up to the scheme. You could also encourage any clubs or groups in which your child is involved outside school to see if they would sign up to the passport scheme. If you have no success, contact the Portsmouth Music Hub (portsmouthmusicclub@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) to see if the Hub can suggest a suitable group.

Stages

There are 5 stages increasing in engagement and challenge. The stamps are not cumulative and each new stage requires the participant to collect a new set of stamps and evidence.

Although anyone can start at any stage, children in infant and junior schools are advised to start at Stage 1. Students in secondary schools and adults may start at any stage. Participants are strongly encouraged to find new ways of engaging with the arts and culture for each stage.

Each stage can be achieved with either standard or gold status. To achieve gold, at least 20% of the stamps need to be participation stamps, i.e. with the participant actively engaging in an activity.

- Stage 1:** 5 stamps + 1 reflection
To achieve gold, at least 1 should be a participation stamp
- Stage 2:** 10 stamps + 2 reflections
To achieve gold, at least 2 should be participation stamps
- Stage 3:** 20 stamps + 4 reflections + 1 project
To achieve gold, at least 4 should be participation stamps
- Stage 4:** 30 stamps + 6 reflections + 1 project
To achieve gold, at least 6 should be participation stamps
- Stage 5:** 40 stamps + 8 reflections + 1 project + 1 leadership challenge
To achieve gold, at least 8 should be participation stamps

What is a Reflection?

A reflection can take various forms: recording thoughts, researching, responding or sharing. These can be written, audio/video recordings or a piece of work created in response to a stimulus, for instance:

- a) A documented piece describing thoughts and ideas linked to an artistic or cultural encounter
- b) Evidence (written, audio/video) that the participant has undertaken independent research in an arts/cultural area of interest
- c) Responding through the creation of a piece of artwork, poetry or song inspired by an artistic or cultural encounter
- d) Communicating to an audience what has been experienced, learnt or achieved, for example:
 - describing a visit to an art gallery in a class assembly
 - talking about a concert in a class sharing time
 - writing an article for a magazine
 - giving a presentation about a concert for a group of people
 - making a film about the experience
 - teaching someone a new skill

What is a Project?

A longer-term *new* activity that takes place over time e.g. learning songs and attending workshops, culminating in a show/exhibition or creating a series of artwork or photographs to share.

What is a Leadership Challenge?

Something new that will challenge the participant to take on a leadership role at an appropriate stage (discussed and agreed in advance with the assessor).