

# food 4 thought

Welcome to the Space4Change kitchen. Today, you are a buddy group of chefs ready to shake up the culinary world with your special recipes and ways of working.

Your speciality?  
Cooking up systems of change.

You will be working through a series of prompts to help create a system that can be used to disrupt and dismantle what is currently not working within cultural institutions and build something new.

This resource was produced by Natalia Leoni in collaboration with Emma Lawrance, Jazz Willett & Fleur Adderley as part of A New Direction's Space for Change programme (2025)



A stylized illustration in dark blue ink at the top of the page. It features a bicycle wheel on the right with musical notes floating around it, and a smiling face with a wide, open mouth on the left, partially obscured by the wheel's spokes.

## Starters

When we think about change within institutions and dismantling structures, it's necessary to start with the basics and interrogate our own understandings of what makes these spaces what they are

What do arts, culture, and heritage spaces look like?


What types of values should be present as the foundation?

Example values:

accountability, transparency, inclusivity, passion, collaboration, innovation, community, curiosity, commitment, integrity, openness, accessibility





A stylized illustration in dark blue ink at the top of the page. It features a bicycle wheel on the right with musical notes floating around it. To the left of the wheel is a smiling face, possibly a mask or a person's head, also in blue ink. The background is a light cream color.

## Mains

From the voices of young people at the beginning of this research process comes key themes. Now, we can start building the meat and bones of something new through question-asking and holding space for conversations. We are focusing on how to better serve young people. How do we make sure we create spaces they feel able to thrive in?

How are the values of this space clear?  
How can the values of this space be communicated with clarity and weaved into the ways of working? What does clear communication look like?

How can young people access and understand ladders of progression into and within the space you are creating and the wider creative sector?

How can you address the thoughts, concerns and needs of young people in actionable ways?

How can this space constantly encourage learning, creativity and curiosity? With an emphasis on legacy, how do we ensure frameworks transcend the people here and now?







## *Desserts*

Now, we need to think about the wider context of where your recipes for change sit. We will be thinking about the past, present and future to inform new ways of working

How can cultural institutions function as holistic spaces? How can they sit within the context of their geographical location and today's contemporary landscape?

Can you think of examples of how people have historically fought for systemic change? How can we apply this to the work being done within cultural spaces?

