

## CULTURAL FREEDOM:

KEY THEMES THAT HELP OR HINDER YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAPACITY TO THRIVE THROUGH DEVELOPING THEIR CREATIVE POTENTIAL.

# A NEW DIRECTION

We create opportunity

# Preparing for work

**Argues for relevant skills and open entry to employment in the creative sector in the capital**

**Research has shown that the skills that are likely to be in greater demand in the future, include interpersonal skills, higher-order cognitive skills, and systems skills (Nesta, 2017). How can we ensure school and talent pipeline programmes help young Londoners develop these skills? Can all young Londoners access these programmes?**

There is also a lack of an effective careers information, advice and guidance offer for young Londoners, limiting the ability to upskill/reskill and progress in work.

The creative industries have long-standing skills shortages, also evident in the UK's digital tech businesses - 50% of which reported a skills shortage in 2017. Research has shown that these skills shortages stem from inadequate training and provision at schools in this country compounded by the ever-greater need for talent in a sector that is growing (Creative Industries Federation, 2016).

Industry has reported that students are graduating without the skills and attitudes needed to succeed in the digital and creative sector.

There are 800,000 jobs in the creative economy as a whole. Since 2011, the fastest growing sectors in the creative economy have been music, performing arts and visual arts. Growth is robust – film and TV production has grown 16.4% in the three months following the EU referendum, against 0.5% overall GDP growth (London First, 2017).

Yet, unemployment rates are above the national average with young people, disabled adults, BAME groups and women disproportionately under-represented in the labour market.

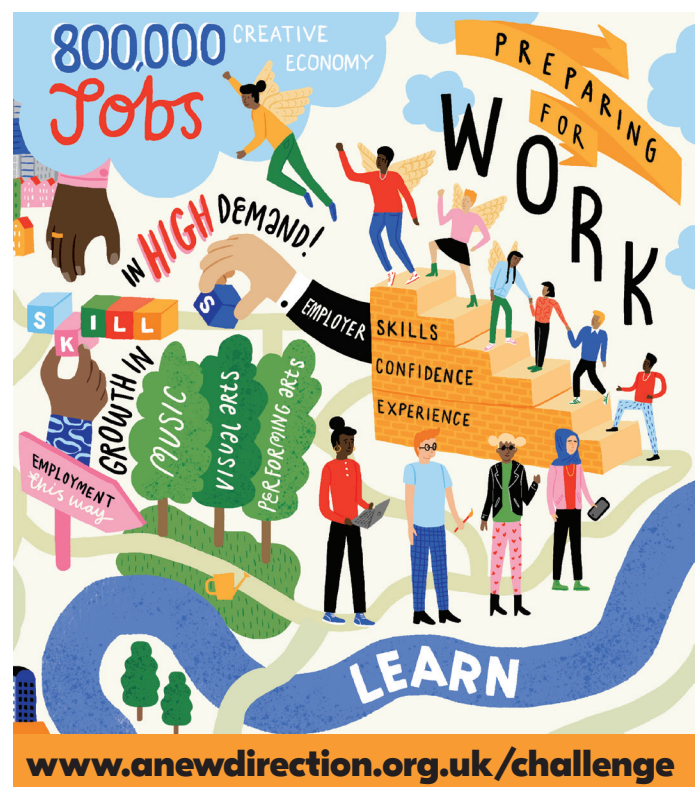
Despite outperforming other regions at GCSE (both for all children and for those eligible for free school meals) London fails to sustain this progress post-16. Inner London ranks second-lowest among the English regions for average points score at Level 3 among 16- 18-year olds in state-funded provision (Department for Education).

In 2015/16, London reported the second lowest number of apprenticeship starts out of the nine English regions.

And equality is an issue...

Young people aged 16 to 18 and from ethnic minority groups continue to be less likely to start an apprenticeship in London than their white counterparts (Mayor of London, 2017).

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds in London continue to be less likely to go on to higher education by age 18 or 19, than their wealthier peers (Department for Education).



# References

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