



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru  
Arts Council of Wales



# Participatory Activity for Children and Young People

Arts Portfolio Wales Survey 2016/17



Noddir gan  
**Lywodraeth Cymru**  
Sponsored by  
**Welsh Government**

BLAS – Pontio Youth Programme  
(image: Iolo Penri)

In 2016/17, more sessions were run outside of schools than in schools, which is contrary to the previous year. On the other hand, attendances to sessions in schools remain higher than attendances to sessions run outside of schools.

In this section we are interested in the arts participatory activity that Arts Portfolio Wales organisations carried out in 2016/17 that is targeted specifically at children and young people. Children and young people refer to those aged 25 and under. Arts Portfolio Wales organisations have reported on the number of sessions and attendance to sessions that have either been run in schools, outside of schools or that are regularly scheduled arts activities. These have been reported on by arts activity and by language breakdown.



A total of

64

organisations ran

2,489

projects specifically targeted at  
children and young people.

These projects generated

37,953

participatory sessions, which attracted

633,729

attendances.

Compared to the previous year,  
the number of participatory sessions  
has decreased by

-10.6%

from

42,445

and the number of attendances  
to these sessions by

-0.6%

from

637,821



# Participatory Activity for Children and Young People: In Schools



Arts Portfolio Wales visited  
**1,897**  
 schools in 2016/17 compared to  
**1,922**  
 in 2015/16.

In line with the reduction in school visits, the number of participatory projects for children and young people within schools has decreased by -2.2% over the two years; the number of sessions delivered has also decreased by -24.2% and attendances to these sessions have decreased by -11.2%.



School Days engagement project, part of The School of Art, Science and Technical Classes, History Series at MOSTYN (image: Lin Cummins)

Projects in schools targeted at children and young people			Participatory sessions			Attendances to sessions		
2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
1,021	999	-2.2	11,622	8,815	-24.2	257,735	228,798	-11.2

Base = 64 organisations in 2015/16 and 60 organisations in 2016/17



Discover Dance Matinee, National Dance Company Wales (Ilun: Catherine Gomez photography)

## Participatory Activity for Children and Young People: Outside of Schools

While the number of participatory projects run outside of schools has increased by 11.5% since 2015/16, the number of sessions delivered during 2016/17 has decreased by -14.8%, compared to 2015/16.



Despite the decrease in  
sessions run the number of attendances  
has increased by

**10.4%**  
from  
**173,483**  
in 2015/16 to  
**191,566**  
in 2016/17.

Projects outside of schools targeted at children and young people			Participatory sessions			Attendances to sessions		
2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
1,017	1,134	11.5	11,024	9,394	-14.8	173,483	191,566	10.4

Base = 64 organisations in 2015/16 and 61 organisations in 2016/17

## Participatory Activity for Children and Young People: Regularly Scheduled Youth Arts Activity



Whilst regularly scheduled youth arts projects have decreased by a quarter (-25.2%) since 2015/16, and the number of sessions delivered in 2016/17 has decreased by

**-0.3%**

there has been a

**3.3%**

increase in the number of attendances when compared to 2015/16.



National Youth Orchestra of Wales , National Youth Arts Wales

Regularly scheduled youth arts projects			Participatory sessions			Attendances to sessions		
2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
476	356	-25.2	19,799	19,744	-0.3	206,603	213,365	3.3

Base = 37 organisations in 2015/16 and 39 organisations in 2016/17

Theatre Entertainment sessions, run inside and outside of schools, increased more than any other participatory arts activity, by 83.8%.

## Arts Activity Breakdown for Children and Young People Inside and Outside of Schools

The table below displays the number of projects, sessions and attendances for each participatory activity run inside and outside of schools combined (not including regularly scheduled arts activities):

	Projects			Sessions			Attendances			Average attendance per session	
	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17	% Change	2015/16	2016/17
Dance	572	492	-14.0	6,785	6,859	1.1	111,154	120,086	8.0	16.4	17.5
Drama	210	181	-13.8	2,528	1,785	-29.4	68,949	43,171	-37.4	27.3	24.2
Combined arts	176	182	3.4	5,358	1,402	-73.8	46,923	55,615	18.5	8.8	39.7
Music	185	222	20.0	1,376	1,609	16.9	41,246	36,148	-12.4	30.0	22.5
Opera	28	31	10.7	273	480	75.8	10,559	24,236	129.5	38.7	50.5
Theatre Entertainment	13	26	100.0	111	204	83.8	3,231	7,467	131.1	29.1	36.6
Craft	155	184	18.7	732	794	8.5	12,326	14,599	18.4	16.8	18.4
Visual Arts	229	243	6.1	2,100	1,780	-15.2	36,779	32,814	-10.8	17.5	18.4
Literature	356	283	-20.5	1,923	1,754	-8.8	69,672	50,599	-27.4	36.2	28.8
Public Art	10	12	20.0	54	79	46.3	592	1,472	148.6	11.0	18.6
Film Production	48	45	-6.3	466	616	32.2	11,746	5,556	-52.7	25.2	9.0
Other	56	232	314.3	940	847	-9.9	18,041	28,601	58.5	19.2	33.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>2,133</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>22,646</b>	<b>18,209</b>	<b>-19.6</b>	<b>431,218</b>	<b>420,364</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>23.1</b>

Base = 64 organisations in 2015/16 and 61 organisations in 2016/17

Overall, there has been a  
**4.7%**  
increase in participatory activity projects  
run for children and young people inside and  
outside of schools.

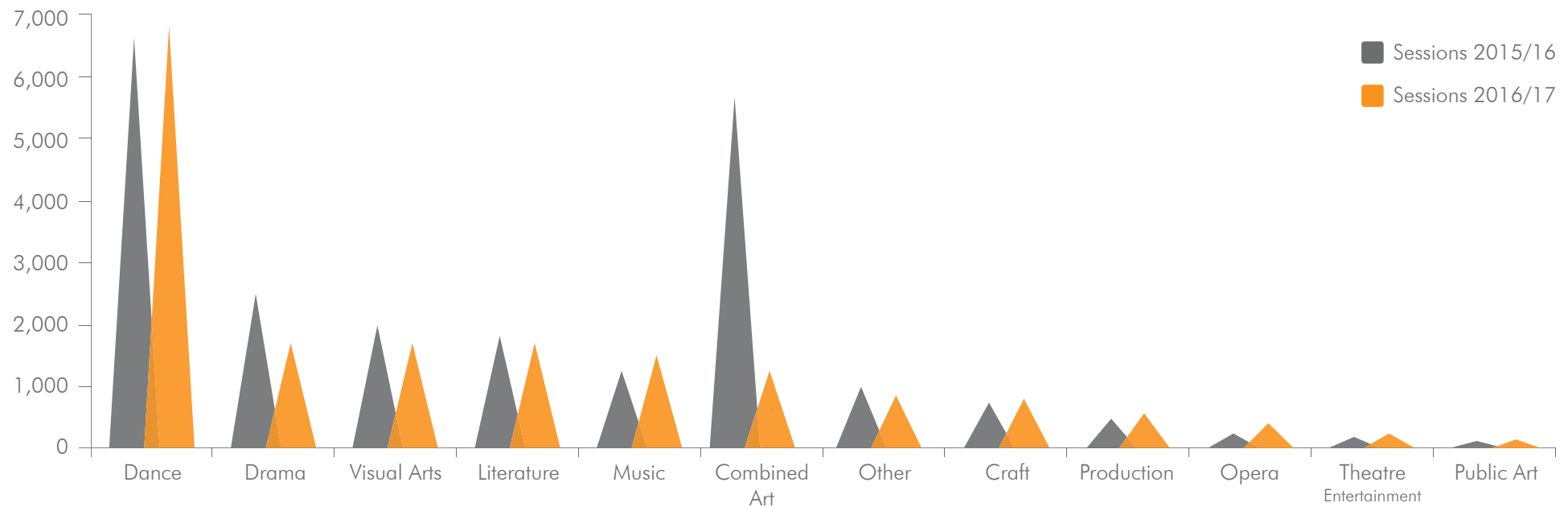
The number of sessions run has decreased by -19.6% between  
2015/16 and 2016/17; the number of attendances to these  
sessions has also decreased by -2.5% since last year.

The average number of attendances  
per session has increased from

**19**  
people per session in 2015/16, to  
**23**  
people per session in 2016/17.



Number of sessions for participatory activities run in and outside of school combined



The participatory arts activities that have attracted most change over the two years are outlined below:

The greatest year on year increase in the number of participatory projects run for children and young people both inside and outside of the school setting was for those arts activities that fall under the category of Other.

However, whilst the number of projects increased from

56

in 2015/16 to

232

in 2016/17, the number of sessions decreased by

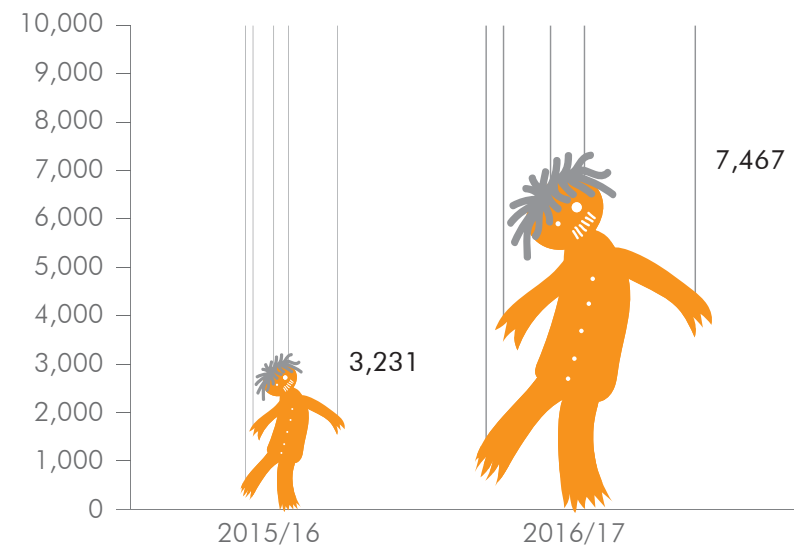
-9.9%

The number of attendances to these sessions increased by

58.5%

Theatre Entertainment sessions had the biggest increase of all the participatory arts activities (83.8%). The number of attendances to these sessions more than doubled from 3,231 in 2015/16 to 7,467 in 2016/17. The number of Theatre Entertainment participatory projects also increased by 100%.

Number of attendances to Theatre Entertainment sessions



Where participatory sessions can be seen to drop most notably is with the Combined Arts sessions. The number of Combined Arts sessions has decreased from 5,358 in 2015/16 to 1,402 in 2016/17. This is a -73.8% difference that accounts for 89.2% of the decrease in sessions overall.

## Arts Activity Breakdown for Regularly Scheduled Youth Arts Activity

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Looking at the overall picture for regularly scheduled participatory groups and clubs for children and young people, the number of arts activity projects has decreased since 2015/16 by -25.2%.



The number of sessions has decreased marginally by -0.3% and attendances to sessions has increased by 3.3% from

206,603

in 2015/16 to

213,365

in 2016/17.

The number of projects running regular Music groups and clubs has decreased significantly by -45.8%. However this has not impacted too greatly on the number of sessions being run, with only a -5.7% decrease in sessions. On the other hand, attendances to sessions has dramatically decreased by -55.8%, from 44,264 attendances in 2015/16 to 19,554 in 2016/17.

The number of projects running regular Dance sessions has also decreased by a similar amount (-45.9%), however the number of sessions and attendance rates have remained similar to the previous year.

The number of regularly scheduled Theatre sessions has increased by 6.8% from

1,984

in 2015/16 to

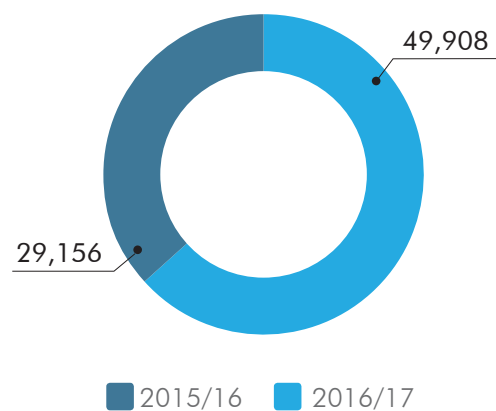
2,118

in 2016/17.

Attendances to these sessions has also increased, by 16.9%, with the average attendance per session going up from 21 to 23.



The most significant increase in attendances to regular arts activities can be seen with the Performance Arts; a 71.2% increase, from 29,156 in 2015/16 to 49,908 in 2016/17. The number of projects and sessions has also increased.



Rubicon Dance (image: Sian Trenberth Photography)

	Regularly scheduled youth arts activity projects			Participatory sessions			Attendances to sessions			Average attendance per session	
	2015/16	2016/17	% change	2015/16	2016/17	% change	2015/16	2016/17	% change	2015/16	2016/17
Theatre	103	109	5.8	1,984	2,118	6.8	41,193	48,152	16.9	20.8	22.7
Music	59	32	-45.8	9,749	9,190	-5.7	44,264	19,554	-55.8	4.7	2.1
Dance	268	145	-45.9	7,209	7,338	1.8	91,990	95,751	4.1	12.8	13.0
Performance Arts	46	70	52.2	857	1098	28.1	29,156	49,908	71.2	34.0	45.5
Totals	476	356	-25.2	19,799	19,744	-0.3	206,603	213,365	3.3	10.6	10.8

Base = 37 organisations in 2015/16 and 39 organisations in 2016/17

## Participatory Arts Activity for Children and Young People in Welsh

The table below outlines the proportion of participatory activity which was run for children and young people through the medium of Welsh:

	Participatory sessions delivered in Welsh			Attendances		
	2015/16	2016/17	% change	2015/16	2016/17	% change
In schools	1,600	1,437	-10.2	50,231	44,252	-11.9
Outside schools	1,262	1,199	-5.0	28,317	50,476	78.3
Regular Youth Arts Activity	536	1,221	127.8	19,443	43,183	122.1
Total Welsh Language Activity	3,398	3,857	13.5	97,991	137,911	40.7
Total C&YP Participatory Activity	42,545	37,953	-10.8	641,366	633,729	-1.2
Welsh activity as % of Total	8	10.2	*	15.3	21.8	*

Base = 29 organisations 2015/16 and 32 organisations in 2016/17

The number of children and young peoples' participatory sessions run in Welsh increased from

3,398  
in 2015/16 to  
3,857  
in 2016/17.

In 2016/17, sessions run in the medium of Welsh accounted for

10.2%  
of all children and young peoples' participatory activity and  
21.8%  
of attendances.

The increase is due to there being more than double the number of regular youth arts activities delivered in Welsh since 2015/16.

Sessions targeted at transgender children and young people who have undergone or are undergoing gender re-assignment have had the biggest increase in attendances of all targeted sessions, which are over 15 times the amount of the previous year.

## Participatory Activity Targeted Specifically at Children and Young People in the Protected Characteristics Groups

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*The Equality Act 2010 means that the Arts Council of Wales has a legal responsibility to ensure that anyone working as an employee for, or using a service provided by, an arts organisation in receipt of our funding is treated fairly. The protected characteristics include: disability, gender, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, age. We target the over 50s and children and young people within the 'age' component of protected characteristics.*

Targeted sessions accounted for

**6.9%**

of all participatory sessions for children and young people and attendances accounted for

**6.3%**

of all attendances.

Disabled children and young people was the group with the highest level of targeted activity, with

**1,495**

sessions or 57.1%

of all targeted activity and 50.6% of all targeted attendances.

Sessions targeted at transgender children and young people who have undergone or are undergoing gender re-assignment have increased most significantly since the previous year, from 14 sessions in 2015/16 to 106 sessions in 2016/17. These sessions have also seen the biggest increases in attendances, which are over 15 times the amount of the previous year. Similar trends can be seen to apply to sessions targeted at children and young people from Black and Minority Ethnic groups.

	Sessions		Attendances		% Change	
	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	Events	Attendances
Disabled People	4,027	1,495	40,775	20,166	-62.9	-50.5
As % of Targeted Activity	93.9	57.1	92.7	50.6		
Black & Minority Ethnic groups	136	812	1360	15769	497.1	1059.5
As % of Targeted Activity	3.2	31.0	3.1	39.6		
Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual people	28	131	830	1630	367.9	96.4
As % of Targeted Activity	0.7	5.0	1.9	4.1		
Transgender people who have undergone or are undergoing gender re-assignment	14	106	104	1585	657.1	1424.0
As % of Targeted Activity	0.3	4.0	0.2	4.0		
People with specific religious beliefs or other purposes connected to religion	49	0	649	0	-100.0	-100.0
As % of Targeted Activity	1.1	0.0	1.5	0.0		
Pregnant women and new mothers	36	76	254	690	111.1	171.7
As % of Targeted Activity	0.8	2.9	0.6	1.7		
Total targeted sessions for children and young people	4,290	2,620	43,972	39,840		
Targeted sessions as % of total activity for children and young people	10.2	6.9	6.9	6.3		

Base = 38 organisations in 2015/16 and 34 organisations in 2016/17