

## **Creative Schools television documentary**

### **Introduction**

RTÉ is seeking submissions for the production of a television documentary for RTÉ One based on the Scoileanna Ildánacha/Creative Schools Pilot Project.

Scoileanna Ildánacha/Creative Schools is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme, a five year all-of-Government initiative to place creativity at the centre of public policy (<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/about>). The Creative Schools Pilot is a nationwide initiative involving 150 schools led by the Arts Council in partnership with the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the Department of Education and Skills with support from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

Creative Schools aims to put the arts and creativity at the heart of children's and young people's lives. It is a pilot initiative that aims to support schools to develop and begin to implement their own Creative Schools plan. While it is likely that arts will feature strongly, each school will create a plan which creates opportunities to encourage creativity, in whatever way it is defined by each school for themselves. 150 schools were selected to participate in the Creative Schools Pilot in the school year 2018/19. A diverse range of school types were selected, including schools from a wide range of rural and urban locations, primary and post primary schools, Irish medium schools, DEIS schools, special schools and Youthreach centres. Additional information, including a full list of schools participating in the pilot, is available at <http://www.artscouncil.ie/creative-schools/>.

In developing a Creative School plan, participating schools will follow a process comprising three elements: *understand, develop and celebrate* the arts and creativity in their school. Each school will be supported in this process via a package of measures provided by the Arts Council, including access to a Creative Associate (either an artist or a teacher/artist who is available to the school for up to 9 days over an academic year), training for the School Co-ordinator (often a designated teacher within the staff group) and up to 2 other members of staff and an award of €2,000 to help animate and implement their Creative School Plan.

### **Programme Brief**

The television documentary will be observational in character, capturing the vision, ambition and experience of the Creative Schools pilot (with a particular focus on the experience of participating children which links directly to the strategic vision for Creative Schools which is for children and young people to have a central role in the process) and communicating this to a broad pre-watershed RTÉ One audience.

The documentary will follow c. 3-4 schools over a period of several months, creating a narrative based on how each school seeks to *understand, develop and celebrate* the arts and creativity. The selected schools will vary by type and will be based in a range of locations across the country. Selection of the c. 3-4 schools will take place following the conclusion of the commissioning process, with the assistance of the Creative Schools Team within the Arts Council. **Prospective contractors must not contact schools in advance of submitting a proposal.**

The documentary will ensure the voice of the child emerges, whilst also referencing a range of other participants including school leaders, teachers, Creative Associates,

parents and representatives of participating local arts and creativity organisations where relevant.

RTÉ is seeking submissions for the production of a documentary programme of approx. 52 minutes duration.

Prospective contractors should set out their vision for the programme as part of their submission to RTE, taking into account the following considerations:

- The look and style of the programme must communicate the essence of the Creative Schools Pilot programme, as set out in the Creative Schools Briefing Document and as described above.
- The director should be clearly identified and this experienced professional should have a proven ability to use observational techniques to create an engaging narrative.
- Demonstrate sensitivity to and awareness of how the arts, creativity and education can interact in a genuinely creative way.
- The style of the documentary ought to be emotionally enriching, conveying the ups and downs of the process from the perspective of the participating children and the other key individuals.
- Capability of working in the regulated classroom environment, with due regard to health and safety issues including child welfare (a Child Protection Policy will be required, together with Garda vetting for those working in direct contact with children in the classroom setting, in line with provisions of RTÉ Child Protection Policy and Procedures).
- The capacity to film intermittently over an extended period in order to capture the process (timeframe expected to be c. March – October 2019), whilst taking into account the dates of the school calendar.
- The production team will be required to liaise closely with key personnel from Creative Schools, including the Arts Council's representatives.
- The capacity to complete the edit on the programme and submit the finished product by the deadline (Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020).
- The production team will report to RTÉ.
- Final and sole editorial control rests with RTÉ.

### **Budget**

The maximum budget for this programming is €130,000, inclusive of all programme staff and production fees.

Cost effective proposals will be a factor in the final decision.

**Submissions will not be accepted after the deadline date and time.**

We ask, in the first instance, that producers submit ideas into the eCommissioning system:

<https://e-commissioning.rte.ie/SWIFT.Web/skins/rte/login.aspx>

under the programme category "**Arts & Culture - Creative Schools**"`

**Closing date for receipt of programme submissions is 21st January, 2019 at 12 noon.**