



C&T and Primary schools



A groundbreaking pilot project paving the way for C&T to bring its unique model of applied learning to the Primary sector.

C&T develops Wii gaming for learning



Exploiting the latest technologies to aid learning, C&T has developed new Wii gaming experiences to aid active learning.

Creative young entrepreneurs



See how C&T will be helping young people pursue and realise their own creative ambitions with this new programme of support.

Welcome to the new-look Upload

This regular update on C&T's cutting-edge practice has had to be expanded as C&T grows its national network of partners. Even so, we can't give all the detail we'd like to, so get in touch if you want to know more.

The robots are coming



AstraZeneca
Science
Teaching
Trust

Early 2009 sees C&T begin a brand new **Science and Drama** project about the impact of robotics in the modern world. Generously supported by the AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust, the project will support secondary school science teachers to develop **new creative teaching techniques** – and bring scientists from QinetiQ, one of the UK's largest technology research companies (and one of the top ten recruiters of science and engineering graduates), into the classroom.

Excitingly, C&T are also funding the participating Science teachers to visit QinetiQ's national **robotics research facility** in Farnborough, Hampshire.

All the secondary schools in the C&T Network will participate and benefit from the funding, sourced by C&T on their behalf. The project represents a growing commitment from C&T to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in our partner schools.

The Robots work builds on a successful pilot run in partnership with both QinetiQ's STEM Outreach Unit and Herefordshire and Worcestershire STEMPOINT. Gary House, Deputy Head of Tenbury High, one of the two pilot schools: *"C&T increased the students' confidence and participation in lessons and clearly extended the thinking of all pupils. It was an excellent opportunity to extend teaching and learning and it's inspired us to use more diverse teaching methods. Excellent."*

Annette Smart, QinetiQ's STEM outreach manager, adds *"The whole exercise captured the imagination of all the students with 100%*



QinetiQ are world leaders in robotic systems, like this robot stealth boat which can venture into dangerous waters.

Visit candt.org to see how C&T brings its partners other unique paths to creative learning.



You can have C&T make an impact in your school too. Here's how.

If you want to radically change the way your school thinks about creativity, talk to us.

Our partner schools build a long term relationship with C&T which lets us effect real, systemic change amongst their students and teachers. Upload describes some of the ways we do it. You can find out more about C&T at candt.org, but the best thing to do is to get in touch.

We visit your school and learn from you about your particular needs and ambitions, and we'll tell if C&T can make a difference.

We'll then build you a **bespoke programme** of work which will bring into your school ideas, resources and ways of working that can't be got any other way.

participation throughout, even for those with attention span difficulties. It was superb to see how science topics could be communicated through expression, interaction and theatre."

C&T and QinetiQ intend the Robots project to be just the first of many, with the creation of new, unique learning and teaching experiences benefitting our partner schools.

QinetiQ



QinetiQ's research facility in Farnborough, Hampshire, to be visited by participating teachers.

Gaming: a new learning frontier opens for C&T

Participatory theatre

C&T was selected as **one of only ten** companies from across England to be involved in Arts Council England's *Young Peoples Participatory Theatre* scheme. YPPT supported our project **+Verb** (see right).

This funded our partner schools to be a part of a major national initiative aimed at getting more young people involved in youth theatre – a great example of how we open doors for our partners.

Handheld gaming, and in particular the Nintendo Wii, has revolutionised video gaming, and this revolution has now come to C&T. Students at our partner schools will get to make their own games and tackle learning in a fun and original way.

With handheld Wiimotes our partners can play our new game *Vlex* on any computer with bluetooth communication. "Vlex" is the new word devised by young people across the C&T Network as part of the **+Verb** project. Vlex means "to take virtual control of your life, or to take actual control of your virtual life" and the game is an extension of this.

Vlex is a game of skill making players assemble the walls of a place in which they personally struggle to take control – like a classroom. In mastering the assembly of the room, they are taking virtual control, and are rewarded with unlocking video of a drama created in that space. Subsequent levels of the game are being devised with young people across the C&T Network. Available online for young people all over the world, they'll create new rooms and personalise the game to their own life and experiences.

Whilst video gaming is a multimillion dollar industry, it's rare for young people to be involved in the design an development of a video game in such a fascinating way.



The Wii has revolutionised the gaming world through its handheld accelerometer controls

The prototype *Vlex* game from C&T



Find out more: candt.org/addverb
artscouncil.org.uk/yppt



Creative entrepreneurs

This year C&T will be rolling out a groundbreaking scheme encouraging young people to take complete control of their own creativity. C&T will be awarding dozens of £200 grants to students in our partner schools to give them the chance to take responsibility for realising their original ideas.

The whole process will teach valuable skills, not least having to explain their idea sufficiently well to win the grant! C&T will guide students through the process, but this looks to be a bold way of empowering young people to make things happen.

Watch this space.



Phil Porter has been writer-in-residence at the National Theatre studio and Pentabus Theatre Company and also written plays for the Unicorn Children's Theatre, The Bush, Northampton Theatre Royal and off-Broadway.

He has won Arts Council England's **Children's Award** for excellence, inspiration and innovation in children's theatre writing, and a Bruntwood prize.

Royal Exchange writer wiki-scripting with C&T

2009 sees a remarkable partnership where students work with an award-winning writer on a shared script, wherever they are in the UK.

Phil Porter, fresh from winning a Bruntwood playwriting prize from Manchester's Royal Exchange, will work with students from C&T's partner schools using the latest online wiki techniques to help them develop their writing skills through cooperative scriptwriting.

Wikis, made famous by the online encyclopaedia *Wikipedia*, are web pages where users can collaboratively work on a communal text. C&T is investing in new wiki technologies to ensure this can be done in a secure and safe way for education settings.

In particular he'll be helping students develop quality scripts for documentary "Living Newspaper" drama work exploring topical social and political issues. But rather than being tied behind computers, we'll be keeping the process active and on its feet. Indeed, the work won't just be online – Phil will visit every network school and spend time with students, sharing his expertise and passion for writing.

Phil is well known to C&T. Years ago, as a teenager, he came for a week of work experience and ended up staying a year! Since then he's carved a successful career writing plays for both adults and young people – we're sure his example will galvanise today's students about the creative industries.

Find out more about Living Newspapers: candt.org/livingnewspaper



School consultation drives new Primary project

Our school partnerships are about listening to our partner's needs. Our new strand of work in the Primary sector is a great example of this.

Prompted by curriculum changes, SEAL, the creativity agenda and the ever-increasing emphasis on good transition, we asked primary schools how we could support them.

After a considerable period of consultation with teachers, headteachers and students, we're now able to announce the start of a dramatic new pilot project.

In conjunction with Worcestershire County Council Extended Services, C&T is bringing its creative practice to a trio of primary schools in

the Bromsgrove district of Worcestershire. Just as with our existing secondary partners, we're embedding new pedagogies and processes into the extended day and the classroom. In particular, there's a focus on how the extended day can work in sympathy with the curriculum, each reinforcing the other.

Joel Marshall, Assistant Head at Blakedown Primary School says *"It's been great to have someone with ideas and methods that complement ours. We've been able to do more and to a much higher quality. The children have enjoyed having a different approach to their learning, one that's fun and, at the same time, is challenging."*

Liam Tombs is the C&T Animateur working in each school. *"It's about working closely with the teachers to give them the confidence to try new things, knowing that I'll be there as a safety net. So far, it's gone really well – we'll shortly begin the next phase which will link each school to the other two through the secure candtnetwork.org site."*

C&T is already in talks with another consortium of primary schools.

If you want C&T in your primary school or your feeder schools, call **01905 855436** or find out more at candt.org/primary



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C&T wins major award
C&T at West Yorkshire Playhouse

Research round-up

C&T's model of practice is gaining increasing attention worldwide as it has widespread implications for the arts and education sectors. Here's a brief round-up of our recent research and dissemination work.

Australia C&T will be at IDIERI6 in Sydney in 2009. The International Drama in Education Research Institute meets only every three years and attracts the brightest and best from around the world.



Barcelona C&T Animateur Greg Foster shared a stage in Barcelona with Boeing and Microsoft at ITXPO2008, an international conference exploring future digital trends – organised by Gartner, the world's leading IT research and advisory company. Greg explained how being a digital native (the term coined by Marc Prensky – listen to his C&T podcasts, see the link below) is central to his practice and work with C&T.



Exeter 70 academics and practitioners from around



the world worked with C&T at Exeter University's Researching Applied Drama, Theatre and Performance conference, focusing on the pedagogic and intellectual underpinnings of C&T's practice.

Japan 2009 sees C&T's Paul Sutton invited by the Japanese centre of the International Theatre Institute to work with drama practitioners and teachers in Tokyo and Hiroshima on documentary drama and media literacy.

Leeds At the Theatre and Performance Research Association (TAPRA) Paul Sutton, C&T's Artistic Director, presented our current thinking on the role of digital technology in drama: *Vlexing in the Digital Realm: Defining the Language of Young People Through Theatre, Participation and New Technologies*.



Liverpool We've shared our research findings from +Verb at Arts Council England's Get In conference – part of Liverpool's year as Capital of Culture. Sharing with leading industry professionals and the



elite of the national participatory theatre community, we also demo-ed our new Wii game *Vlex*.

Worcester C&T is now contributing to the University of Worcester's new MA in Performance Studies. The course emphasises the breadth of current theatre practice, including experimentation with new technologies in applied contexts.



York We spoke about how digital technology is central to C&T's success in connecting to young people at *Shift Happens*, a day-long event for the professional theatre industry hosted by Pilot Theatre Company and York Theatre Royal.

Australia: idieri2009.org
 Barcelona: www.gartner.com
 Japan: iti-worldwide.org
 Leeds: tapra.org
 Liverpool: artscouncil.org.uk/getin
 Marc Prensky: morethantheatre.org

Young professionals and young artists join C&T

C&T welcomes six new faces, including two new Board members emerging from Arts & Business Midlands' groundbreaking Young People on Arts Boards scheme.

Joseph Rooke is an Account Director for BDG Direct, the business development arm of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. At 21 years old, Joseph is the youngest-ever board member in the UK placed by Arts & Business into an arts organisation. **James Coleman**, 26, is already a

Creative Director of his own Birmingham-based design agency, Supercool.

Also joining C&T is **Max Allsup**, 18, the youngest member of our professional creative team. As Youth Theatre Animateur he'll be working across the West Midlands in a range of Extended Day settings. **Audrey Hopkins** brings her considerable teaching and senior leadership experience to C&T as Education Partnership Broker, and **Liam Tombs**, 23, has joined C&T as Assistant Producer and

Animateur. Liam is running our Primary pilot (see page 3) and also supporting the Producing Team. **Sylvia Cahill** is our new Company and Finance Administrator.

Do you share C&T's passion for learning through drama and technology? Learn about being a Board member at candt.org/board



Joseph Rooke



James Coleman



Max Allsup



Audrey Hopkins



Liam Tombs



Sylvia Cahill



Arts Award growing with C&T

C&T is now accredited as the West Midlands' first and only independent license holder for delivering Arts Award Training.

Arts Council England's *Arts Award* is a new way of recognising young people's creative endeavours, similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. C&T is now licensed to train adults to deliver the popular bronze and silver awards.

As a benefit to all our partner schools, we waive our own fees to their staff and volunteers. For example, training for 10 teachers can mean a saving to each of our partners of £700.

The Arts Award is a national qualification which supports young people to develop as artists and arts leaders. Young people aged from 11 to 25 can achieve Arts Awards at levels 1, 2 and 3 on the national qualifications framework. It's a great way to validate and celebrate student creativity and all C&T Animateurs are trained to deliver the Award and mentor students through the process.

For those not in the C&T Network we also run public training days throughout the year.



Two young Arts Award achievers receiving their certificates.

Want to find out how to get students motivated about their creativity and get it accredited? candt.org/artsaward

Award-winning C&T

On October 9th C&T was delighted to receive a prestigious award from Arts & Business Midlands. Arts & Business is the world's largest and most successful organisation bringing together the worlds of commerce and culture.

The *Radisson SAS Hotel Birmingham Arts & Business Award for People Development* went to the best example of partnership working between arts organisations and a commercial organisation in the West Midlands in 2008 in the field of personal development.



Receiving the award. Pictured left to right: Sarah Falkland (BBC), Colin Tweedy (A&B Chief Executive), Helen Higson (Aston Business School), Paul Sutton (Artistic Director, C&T), Martin Gent (MAP Consortium), Katie Smirrina (SAS Radisson Hotels)

Find out how your team can benefit from C&T's professional development programmes. Call Producer Rob Lines on **01905 855436**.

Sandbach School joins C&T

We welcome **Sandbach School** to the C&T network. A specialist arts college, Sandbach School is well known for the range and quality of its curricular and extra-curricular activities – last year OFSTED declared the school Outstanding.

C&T is using one of its most experienced Animateurs, Greg Foster, to inject even more creative learning into the School.

Having been in place since September, Greg has already hit the ground running: *"Everyone in the school is really open to new ideas and new ways of working. Any teacher I haven't already met who thinks C&T can support them in creative learning should get in touch with me."*



Greg Foster, Sandbach School's new C&T Animateur.

www.sandbachschool.cheshire.sch.uk

C&T on major stage



This summer C&T presented a LipSync performance on the main stage of Leeds' West Yorkshire Playhouse.

Students from Network partner Parkside School in Cullingworth presented excerpts from their show, *Life*, created and devised by a group of Year 9 boys through an Extended Day activity run by C&T aimed at encouraging boys to participate in drama.

Most of the group, nicknamed "The Bradford Boys", had never taken part in extracurricular drama before, but more than half have now opted for a GCSE in Drama.



See how C&T creates and runs bespoke extended day programmes for its partner schools at candt.org/secondary



Raising standards in History

Cross-curricular learning and extending creative teaching styles are two pivotal aspects of our relationship with our Network partner schools. An example showing dramatic change was showcased by C&T and Bishop Perowne College at the last Specialist Schools and Academies Trust Conference in Bournemouth.

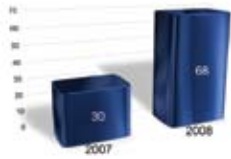
C&T worked closely with the History department, who wanted to refresh their teaching styles, increase boys' achievement and raise GCSE uptake. A structured programme of collaboratively devised in-class units was meshed with an Extended Day group who pursued curriculum topics in more informal ways.

C&T's long-term presence in the school meant that teachers felt empowered to try new techniques, secure in the knowledge that C&T would be there if extra support was needed.

James Laidler, Head of History: *"The children appreciate that you're doing something different and they're much more willing to take risks with their learning at other times, because they've seen you're doing something different with your lesson – and they're much more forthcoming even when it's more of a traditional lesson. Whereas before we seemed to be concentrating on the same 60 or 70% of students, with this extra weapon in our armoury of using the drama techniques we seem to be able to reach all of them."*

The results have been excellent. Increased attainment, particularly in level 6+ and amongst boys, a 130% increase in GCSE uptake with a 125% increase in boys opting for the GCSE compared to last year. 94% of students exceeded their Fischer Family Trust predictions.

Order a more detailed 15-minute DVD case study from info@candt.org and see how C&T could raise standards for you.



History GCSE uptake



History GCSE results (%)



Gender mix in GCSE uptake

morethantheatre podcast inspiration

more than theatre

C&T's podcast about drama, young people and learning is a free resource for educators, drama practitioners and anyone using drama as a learning medium. Loads of new episodes have recently appeared.

You can get hold of the podcast in three ways:



Subscribe in iTunes. Search the store for *morethantheatre*.
Listen online. Go to morethantheatre.org. You'll need a Flash player.
Take the RSS feed. You'll find it at morethantheatre.org.



Drama and Sexual Health Awareness in Africa

Kat Low is a PhD student we met at the Theatre and Performance Research Association conference in Leeds a few months ago. Kat is researching and running a project called *Our Place Our Stage*, which uses theatre as a medium for sexual and reproductive health awareness in Tanzania and South Africa. Kat talks about how applied theatre practice is making a difference in this important area.



Using Digital Technologies in Drama with Disabled People

C&T is coming towards the end of its participation in the high-profile Arts Council England Young People's Participatory Theatre Project, aimed at encouraging normally disengaged young people to get involved in youth theatre, and even consider careers in the theatre world. Here we catch up with one of C&T's Animateurs, Lizi Patch, who has been using C&T's blend of digital technologies and drama to work with young people with severe physical and learning disabilities.



The Challenges Formal Education Faces in the 21st Century

Marc Prensky, internationally known for popularising the idea of "digital natives" and "digital immigrants", spoke recently at the Worcestershire Learning Technologies Conference in Worcestershire. With kind permission of the conference organisers we present highlights of his keynote speech. Marc talks about the challenges facing today's educators in preparing young people for a future which no-one can predict.



Marc Prensky

C&T gratefully acknowledges the support of these bodies:



University of Worcester



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