

Summer Term 2008 Newsletter

The Building Exploratory is a great educational resource with a unique focus on the built environment, based in Hackney. Our Secondary Schools programme provides flexible, stimulating opportunities for enriching students' learning experience outside the classroom. We encourage and enable staff and students to develop a better understanding of their local area, how places are mediated and shaped, and the ways in which this affects our identities and imaginations.

Class visits and hands-on workshops meet National Curriculum requirements in a range of subjects including History, Geography, Maths, Science, Art, Design and Technology and Citizenship.

Careers Session - Friday 27th July

We are offering an opportunity for KS3 students to interact with young architects, engineers and urban planners at a careers event at the Royal Institute of British Architects. Expand your student horizons in this inspiring hands on session. Find out what these professionals do, why they chose their careers and how they trained. Call now to book places for your students.

Hackney Town Hall Hoardings Project

This exciting new project will create a public artwork to wrap around hoardings on the construction site of the Councils' new Service Centre on Hillman Street. We are working with designer Florian Kremb and Year 9 Design & Technology pupils from Hackney Free and Parochial Secondary School. Students are mirroring the process a designer goes through when responding to a professional design brief: meeting clients and other creatives, including the architects designing the Service Centre, visiting the site, researching the environs and it's people and producing sketches, scale drawings and models. The final artwork is due to be unveiled in this summer and will be on display until the new building opens in 2010.



To get involved contact Ashley McCormick on 020 7275 9220 or email ashley@buildingexploratory.org.uk

How Places Work

In its final phase, during the Spring term, our 'How Places Work' programme incorporated visits to award winning landmark buildings. Students met with architects and other professionals involved in the design, construction and everyday running of the buildings in order to improve their understanding about place making. Although this programme has now ended, we are continuing to plan and facilitate local building visits. If you think your students would benefit from taking part then please get in touch.



"It's vital to get young people involved in questioning why a building is made the way it is... breaking down barriers is important...we want to encourage more diversity in our profession"
(Clapton Portico CLC Architect)

Religion & Place in Tower Hamlets

The Building Exploratory's exhibition has recently expanded to incorporate a series of unique art works representing 10 local places of worship. Models, printed maps and a new website www.religionandplace.org.uk, support learning and facilitate enquiry into the religious buildings and traditions of one of London's most diverse boroughs.

Following on from the success of Religion & Place in Tower Hamlets, we have developed spatial enquiry tools for places of worship in Hackney and trialed them with students from the Bridge Academy during visits to St. Michael & All Angels Church and Suleymaniye Mosque. Call now to book a visit.

London Festival of Architecture 2008

The Building Exploratory will be contributing to an exciting programme of debates and events which challenges conventional thinking on architecture and design. The festival takes place from 20th June to 20th July at various sites across the city. For more details see www.ifa2008.org.