

Press Release Feb 2022

Torbay's children to get extra help with their literacy through schools' brand-new partnership with local arts organisations

11 schools in Torbay are taking on an inspirational new partnership with local arts organisations Daisy, Doorstep Arts and Sound Communities. The Riviera Education Trust's Shiphay Learning Academy will take a leading role in Talking Turns, a project that they helped to design. Running until June 2024 the project will bring in a significant resource to help the schools and their teachers, and local creative practitioners, work together with Torbay's school children. They'll be finding creative ways to increase children's oracy - being able to express yourself well. It's about having the vocabulary to say what you want to say and the ability to structure your thoughts and express them so that they make sense to others too, in lots of different situations.

Talking Turns is funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

"The purpose of the Arts-based Learning Fund is to support work which enables pupils in formal education settings, particularly those experiencing systemic inequality or disadvantage, to thrive through engagement with high quality, arts-based learning." (Paul Hamlyn Foundation, 2022)

Riviera Education Trust's Lead for Arts and Music, Lou Darvid, says *"I am just so delighted that this project is now funded and getting going. We have worked so hard with our arts organisations to secure this funding and it means so much to us that our children will have such wonderful experiences in school, while their teachers grow in skill and confidence to create even more effective ways of helping them learn – in ways that they enjoy and that help them develop such vital skills for life."*

Liz Hill, Director of the project's Lead Organisation, Daisy, says, *"This has all grown out of Torbay's Cultural Education Partnership, which is led by Doorstep Arts and has been working throughout the pandemic to support our rich mix of local, inspirational cultural and educational professionals to work closely with each other and come up with new, creative ideas that really respond to children's needs."*

Stewart Biddles, CEO at Riviera Education Trust says *"This is exactly what we need for our children and teachers right now. We are extremely grateful to Paul Hamlyn Foundation for seeing the quality, teamwork and vision that has gone into this project plan, and for recognising that children in Torbay will benefit so much from this work, and bring their own ideas to it too. Everyone will be learning!"*

Kate Rudman, Director at Sound Communities says *"We are very excited about working collaboratively with teachers to help children creatively express themselves about the challenges that they are currently facing."*

Notes to editors

Talking Turns is a partnership project with Project Lead Partners [Daisi](#) (Lead Organisation), [Doorstep Arts](#), [Sound Communities](#), and [Riviera Education Trust](#), and 11 local Participating Partner schools. Talking Turns is funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation [Arts-Based Learning Fund](#).



For further information

Please contact Daisi admin@daisi.org.uk

About our partners

[Daisi](#) collaborates with partners to increase children's access to inclusive, relevant, high-quality arts participation across Torbay, Devon and beyond. Its talented, professional artists span all art forms – from music and dance, to drama, visual arts, literature, and digital.

[Doorstep Arts](#) is Torbay's only Arts Council England national Portfolio Organisation. Its experienced theatre-based teaching artists, skilled and knowledgeable in participatory drama practice, action-research, and teacher professional development, deliver in schools and communities.

[Sound Communities](#) deliver radio and music production across community, youth and schools, especially with more vulnerable children. Their experienced radio-drama practitioners bring skills and knowledge in participatory approaches, and digital technology.

[Riviera Education Trust](#) The academies that form Riviera Education Trust serve different communities in different contexts but share a common goal: to provide an excellent education for our children that will prepare them for life beyond school. The Trust was founded in October 2015 and includes 3 schools: Oldway Primary School, Roselands Primary School, and Shiphay Learning Academy.