

## CASE STUDY – Theatre (SSF Venue)

### why we're an Arts Award Supporter

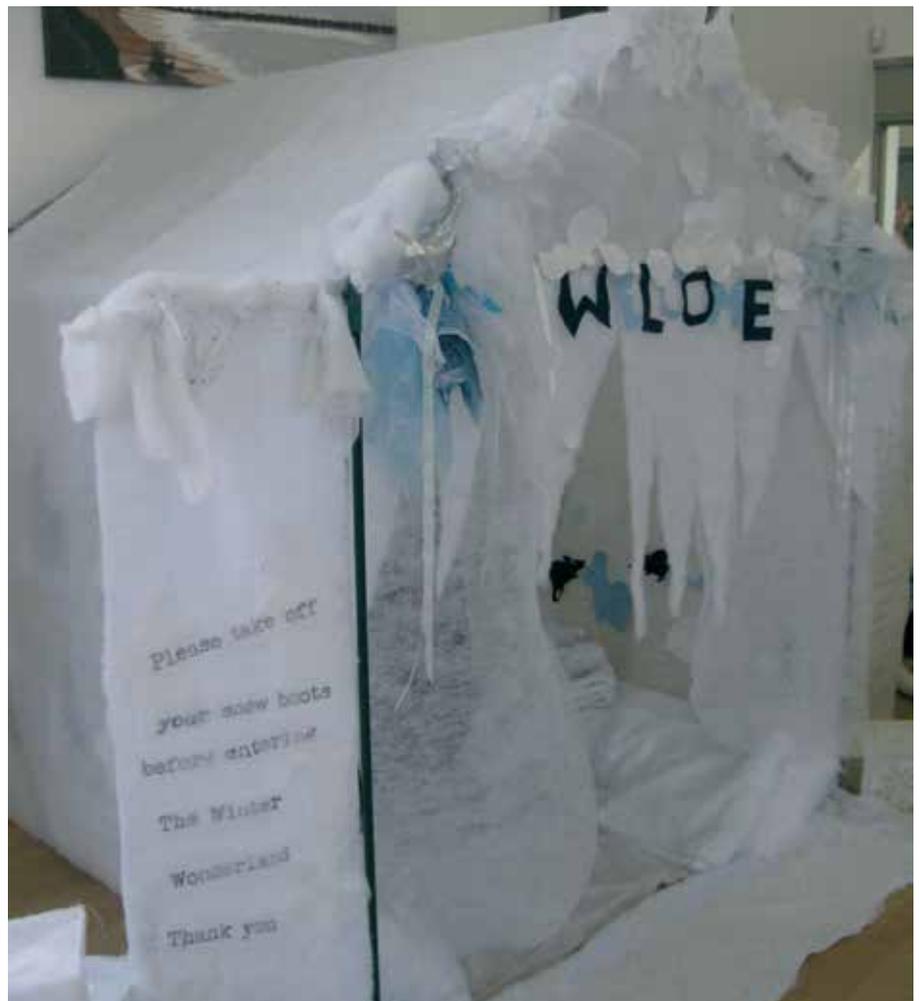
'As a cultural hub in the Poole area, we want to provide young people with a lot of opportunities to get involved and experience the arts.

We are an Arts Award Supporter because our learning and education offer is fundamental to the work we do and we are proud of our education projects and want them to reach more young people.

As a Shakespeare Schools Festival (SSF) theatre, we offer local schools a platform to showcase their work in a professional environment, as well as a chance to meet and work with other schools. We've been an SSF venue for over 15 years because our schools want to come and perform here!

We believe that SSF and Arts Award go hand in hand and we're pleased to promote both!

Helen Donaldson,  
Education Programmer



Snow Play project, Lighthouse, Poole photo Laura Joy

## OUR PROGRAMME

The Lighthouse is a creative organisation and an iconic building that plays an integral part in the delivery of Poole's arts strategy, as well as providing economic benefit and profile for the town. It is Poole's cultural centre of excellence for live performance, film and visual art. Lighthouse is a well-established venue with an excellent reputation for being a place where you can experience, enjoy and take part in a diverse high quality arts programme. It is passionate about providing opportunities for learning and participation across all ages, and specifically for children and young people.

### OUR SUPPORTER OFFER

The Lighthouse's Supporter offer spans all ages, including work experience for older students and the 'Live for 5' programme which gives 14-26 year olds tickets to a range of shows for just £5.

There are artist talks after many of the shows, workshops – often from visiting theatre companies – and classes, plus a chance for young people to exhibit their work in a dedicated area of the building.

Lighthouse creates multi-layered projects for school children, in partnership with the Poole and Bournemouth Cultural Hub. For one show, 'Snow Play' over 350 children and 40 teaching staff and artists collaborated on a project that linked the themes to the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and involved local libraries, a visual artist, storyteller and musician. An 'Ice House' created by Hazel Evans that was resident in school was very popular with children. One teacher commented "a child had asked if it could stay, I think it was the reassuring cosy environment for her".

A snowman appeared in many places across the town as the children went to the library to do their research. Children were inspired to write poetry about winter and create snow pictures, which were exhibited at the Lighthouse before the show. The children also worked with a story teller to create their own performances which were shown to their parents, as well as attending the show and meeting the performers, which was a new experience for most of the children. All these activities fit perfectly with Arts Award Explore!

### HOW DO WE PROMOTE IT?

Lighthouse promotes its Supporter offers through its website, brochures, education newsletter and direct mail, as well to centre visitors. It works very closely with specific schools in the area and with the Poole and Bournemouth Cultural Hub to reach many of the school children in the local community.

### a user's view

**'I found the Arts Award a fantastic opportunity to develop my creativity. It encouraged me to try new things and share my skills. I would encourage everyone to have a go and try it!'**

Antonia Peacock,  
Bronze Arts Award achiever



Snow Play project, Lighthouse. Poole photo Laura Joy

### BENEFITS for the organisation

- ▶ Being an SSF venue brings a lot of children, teachers and parents into the venue for the first time, giving the Lighthouse a chance to raise awareness of its education programme and Arts Award Supporter offer
- ▶ Being an Arts Award Supporter strengthens the Lighthouse's education offer and its relationship with schools
- ▶ Using Supporter to engage older students encourages them to get involved in the arts and the Lighthouse

**Check the link – [www.lighthousepoole.co.uk/learning](http://www.lighthousepoole.co.uk/learning)**