



# Edinburgh Festivals Inspiring Creativity in Pupils

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# Credits

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# Acknowledgements

In the preparation of this report, Festivals Edinburgh gratefully acknowledges the advice and support of its eleven member festivals and the Platforms for Creative Excellence programme partners – Scottish Government, City of Edinburgh Council and Creative Scotland.

## Note on Methodology

This report was prepared using data provided by each of the members of Festivals Edinburgh on their school programmes for the period January 2018 – May 2019, along with desktop research into the wider strategic context for Edinburgh schools.

# Executive Summary

The aim of this study is to map the current schools activity of each of the members of Festivals Edinburgh, providing insights to help inform the development of future programmes. The data on school programmes covers engagement with the city's schools over the period January 2018 – May 2019.

## Key facts & figures

- The festivals engaged with 92% of Edinburgh schools, including 118 of the 122 schools managed by the City of Edinburgh Council
- The festivals engaged with all local authority Secondary Schools
- The festivals engaged with all local authority Primary Schools, except one
- There were over 58,000 pupil engagements – the number of times pupils were involved in festival activities
- Council wards with the lowest audience attendance at festivals are among the highest in terms of engaging with school programmes
- Schools in the most deprived areas of the city have the highest levels of engagement with festivals

## Overview of Festivals' approaches

Festivals' engagement with schools takes place along a spectrum of activity, all designed to embed creativity and impact on all pupils, and includes:

- Workshops led by creative professionals and often hosted by the school
- Facilitated visit to a performance or exhibition in a festival's programme
- Career-Long Professional Learning (CLPL) opportunities for teachers and supporting online resources
- Increasing work on longer-term projects with schools
- Programmes offered throughout the year
- Programmes covering all ages and stages, and tailored activity with pupils attending special schools
- Activity happening directly in the classroom as well as theatres, cinemas, gardens, parks, concert halls, libraries, museums, and galleries

- Many festivals offering travel subsidy schemes to help with transport costs
- Programmes linked to the outcomes of the Curriculum for Excellence
- Programmes promoting the goals of creative learning, inspiring creativity in pupils, developing curiosity, imagination, problem-solving, open-mindedness and communication
- Several examples of festivals collaborating over school programmes, pooling resources to develop a wider offer for teachers and pupils

## Festivals' School Programmes

Examples of current school programmes include:

- Primary school (seasonal activity): Edinburgh Science Festival – organising Generation Science, the UK's largest primary school science outreach programme
- Secondary school (seasonal activity): Edinburgh International Film Festival – workshops offering an insight into the film industry for S5 & S6 pupils, including screenings of a film premiere and an opportunity to hear from visiting professionals from the creative industries
- Primary school (long-term engagement): Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Immerse – a three year project with six Edinburgh primary schools, which uses drama to support attainment in literacy
- Secondary school (long-term engagement): Edinburgh International Festival - a three-year residency designed to enrich the life of the Leith Academy

## Conclusion

Festivals are engaging with the vast majority of Edinburgh's schools, and together have a substantial year-round cultural offer for schools, covering all aspects of creative learning. It is clear that through their work with schools, festivals are successfully engaging with areas of the city and communities that would otherwise tend not to participate in their programmes. Further research is continuing to better understand the needs and priorities of all schools, and to gain new insights into potential barriers to engagement with festivals.

# 1. Introduction

The aim of this study is to map the current schools activity of each of the members of Festivals Edinburgh, to provide insights to help inform the development of future programmes.

The data on school programmes was provided by each of the festivals and covers their engagement with the city's schools over the period January 2018 – May 2019. This gives an oversight of all the festivals' work with Edinburgh schools, revealing the footprint of their activity through the city and the depth of engagement, in terms of the number of programmes and individual pupil engagements<sup>1</sup>.

Since 2019, the work of festivals with schools is being enhanced through the Platforms for Creative Excellence (PlaCE) programme, funded by the Scottish Government – through Creative Scotland - the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Festivals. A key objective is to increase and deepen cultural engagement across the city's communities, and this has enabled many festivals to develop new and in-depth programmes for schools.

The first section of this report gives the context for the festivals' work with schools, followed by an overview of the approaches used by festivals and an analysis of the data on their programmes. The report then summarises the regular programmes offered by festivals, and new projects being undertaken through PlaCE, and finally provides case studies of schools engagement in practice across each of the 17 Council wards of the city.

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<sup>1</sup> Pupil engagements refers to the number of times pupils were involved in festival activities and not the number of individual pupils, as many will benefit from multiple opportunities.

## 2. Strategic Context for Edinburgh Schools

It is important to note the strategic framework which all Edinburgh schools operate within, as this helps to identify how they engage with programmes and the opportunities for festivals in meeting their priorities.

### National Improvement Framework

The National Improvement Framework (NIF) sets out the agreed vision and priorities for Scottish education, and the activity that needs to be undertaken to help deliver those key priorities. The framework complements the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE), Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW), which are the three supporting pillars of the Scottish education system.

The key priorities of the National Improvement Framework are:

- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people

### Edinburgh Learns

Edinburgh Learns is a strategic framework of documents which cover a series of themes seen as key to raising attainment and ensuring equity. The strategies are, Equity for Learning, Improving Quality in Learning (Quality Improvement), Health and Wellbeing, Teaching and Learning, Learning Together (Parental

Involvement and Engagement), Pathways for Learning (Developing the Young Workforce), and Inclusion.

As part of the consultation process for the Regional Improvement Collaborations, the broad priorities for Edinburgh schools were mapped under the NIF priorities:

- Literacy / Numeracy - Analysis of data, tracking & monitoring, literacy strategy, numeracy strategy, close vocabulary gap.
- Health & Wellbeing - Mental health and wellbeing interventions, training on Adverse Childhood Experiences, anti-bullying.
- Equity - Use of data to provide equity of access, attendance, pilot of 1140hrs, poverty proof the school day, engaging parents in learning, review exclusion policy, equity strategy.
- Employability – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), digital learning, audit careers progression, deliver DYW plan, career pathways for early learning and childcare.
- NIF Drivers - Teaching & Learning Strategy, Self-evaluation/Validated Self-Evaluation, Leadership, Review assessment policy.
- GIRFEC - Looked After Children Plan, Corporate Parenting Plan, parental engagement strategy.
- Other - Needs of Syrian refugees, Gaelic Medium education.

### Schools Standards Quality Improvement Plans (SQIP)

Each school produces an improvement plan which shows how they are addressing the NIF priorities, against its own specific issues. Often these are available online on the school's website, and they offer direct insight to the needs of individual schools.

## South East Improvement Collaboration (SEIC)

Regional Improvement Collaborations (RICs) are an initiative to forge better collaborative links between schools on a regional basis. The City of Edinburgh council is part of a regional group, along with East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian and Scottish Borders, which is known as the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) - more details are available on the SEIC website

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/seicollab/the-plan/>.

Although the local authorities take a strategic view in guiding the priorities for the SEIC, the intention is to set up better connections between individual schools. The SEIC has produced a regional improvement plan which sets out two main objectives:

- Improving attainment and achievement, including closing the attainment gap
- Quality Improvement in schools and early years settings

The plan outlines a series of workstreams under each of these objectives, and an initial register of contacts with areas of interest or specialisms

(<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/public/seicollab/uploads/sites/7618/2018/11/SEIC-Plan-2018-submitted.pdf>)

## 1 in 5 Pupil Equity Framework

The City of Edinburgh Council launched this strategic framework in 2018, to address the impact of poverty on the outcomes for children in the city. The framework comes from the work of the 1 in 5 project, which found that child poverty is an issue faced by every school in the city - affecting 1 in 5 pupils or approximately 20,000 school age children and young people. Child poverty rates range from 25% to 35% in some disadvantaged areas of the city, and over 10% of children even in some of the most affluent parts of Edinburgh.

The framework aims to achieve equity in school experiences, and to promote respect and dignity for pupils and their families affected by poverty. It prioritises minimising costs and reducing pressure on family budgets, ensuring equal access to opportunities, regardless of income, and reducing poverty-related stigma through awareness raising.

## Further information

A detailed profile of every school in Edinburgh is available online via the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services. This shows a wide variety of information on measurements such as literacy and numeracy attainment, attendance and the profile of pupils by gender, race, language needs, and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation data zones:

- Primary schools:  
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/SchoolInformationDashboard-Primary/Introduction>
- Secondary schools:  
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/SchoolInformationDashboard-Secondary/Introduction>
- Special schools:  
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/SchoolInformationDashboard-Special/Introduction>



### 3. Overview of Festivals' Approaches

Festivals' engagement with schools includes a spectrum of activity, ranging from one-off workshops supported with resources, through to long-term programmes designed to embed creativity and impact on all pupils. The points below highlight some of the key characteristics of the festivals' approaches to working with schools.

#### Type of engagement

Across the festivals there is a wide variety of types of engagement, but the majority of education engagement involves workshops led by a facilitator or creative professional, and often hosted by the school itself. Frequently, this activity is linked to a facilitated visit to a performance or exhibition in the festival's programme, usually held at a city centre venue.

Most festivals also offer Career-Long Professional Learning (CLPL) opportunities for teachers based around their school programmes and performances. Sometimes this is supporting a specific activity, but in other cases this is aimed at encouraging teachers to see the wider creative learning possibilities of engaging with their main programmes.

Many festivals offer online resources, to support specific programmes or more generally to help teachers bring a creative subject into the classroom. These range from simple PDFs to videos and interactives and demonstrate curriculum links.

#### Lowering cost barriers

Alongside other targeted activity, festivals offer a variety of schemes to help overcome the important barrier of cost. Careful planning has been put in place

to ensure the offers reach targeted audience and that the shows that groups see are suitable. For example under the Fringe Days Out scheme, a panel of pupils from Gracemount High School select the shows for the participants to see. Many festivals offer support with transport costs, in response to feedback from teachers which has identified this as an important barrier to participation.

#### Across school stages

The overall festivals' offer for schools encompasses all stages from primary to secondary. While there are relatively fewer options for early years (P1-3) and later secondary (S4-6), there are still some programmes on offer that cover this audience. The majority of programmes cover P5-S2 levels, reflecting the level of flexibility in the school timetable around those years.

#### Depth of engagement

In the vast majority of cases, school programmes involve a depth of engagement that goes well beyond attendance at a performance. Many offer activities as part of a wider project with schools, often supported with online resources, access to creatives, and the opportunity to participate in a cultural activity or performance. Programmes such as competitions or free ticket offers that involve less direct contact with schools, typically have additional elements such as youth panel juries or committees of young people to help select performances.

#### Longer-term engagement

It is clear that the PLaCE programme is allowing the festivals to plan longer term programmes, involving deeper engagement and co-design with schools in developing projects. Examples include the Edinburgh International Book Festival's [Citizen](#) project, part of which includes work with three secondary schools over three years.

The Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival are working with all the pupils at Dalry Primary School; the [Immerse](#) programme from Imagine, the organisation behind the Edinburgh International Children's Festival, is focusing on six selected schools in areas of high deprivation over a three year period; and [Edinburgh Art Festival](#) is also taking a strategic approach to develop co-designed projects with schools in targeted areas.

### **Joint initiatives**

Although the majority of education engagement is carried out by festivals individually, there are several examples of collaboration.

Under the PLaCE programme, the Edinburgh International Children's Festival and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society have collaborated to develop the [Teachers' Theatre Club](#). This aims to encourage teachers to see more live performances, to become more confident in discussing and using what they see and in turn bringing that learning in the classroom.

Other examples include the Edinburgh International Film Festival and Edinburgh International Festival working in partnership along with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra over the [Sound Moves: Music Movies](#) project. This has seen pupils from three Edinburgh primary schools produce their own films and soundtracks, which are then shown as part of the Film Festival.

Edinburgh Science has provided activities for the Edinburgh International Book Festival, and worked in partnership with the Children's Festival to develop the [Science in the Spotlight](#) project. Edinburgh Art Festival advised on the [#ScotArt](#) project run by Edinburgh's Hogmanay, and Edinburgh International Book Festival has also liaised with them over the Message from the Skies creative writing competition.

## 4. Schools Engagement Data

### Overview

Overall for the period of this study, festivals have engaged with approximately 92% of Edinburgh schools. In terms of local authority schools, this includes 118 of the 122 schools managed by the City of Edinburgh Council.

Type of School	Number of Schools	Schools engaged with Festivals
Local authority – Primary Schools	88	87 <sup>2</sup>
Local authority – Secondary Schools	23	23
Local authority – Special Schools	11	8
Independent	17	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>129</b>

**Table 1: Number of Edinburgh schools engaged with the Festivals**

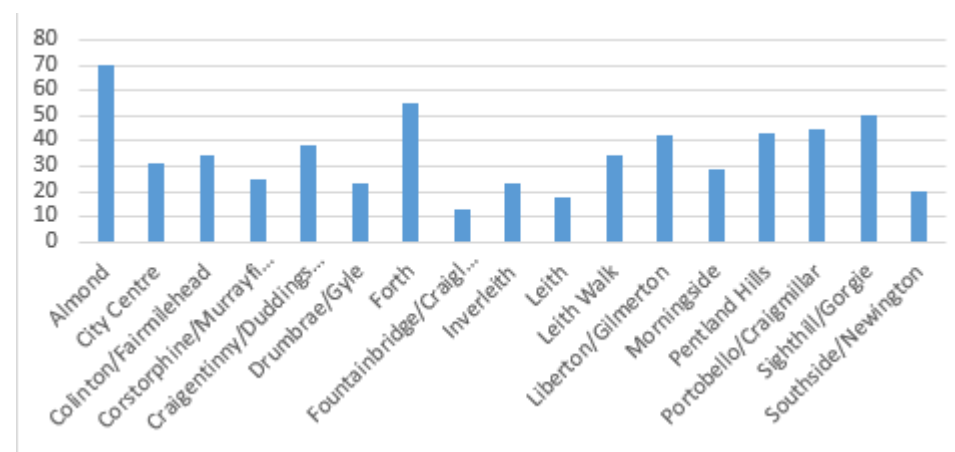
Over the period of the study there was a total of 58,138 pupil engagements in the festivals' school programmes. Pupil engagements refers to the number of times pupils were involved in festival activities and not the number of individual pupils, as many will benefit from multiple opportunities.

The pupil census for September 2018 indicates the total roll for all Edinburgh schools of 50,607. As is clear from the analysis below, not all the opportunities are spread equally across this number of pupils, but this benchmark does give an indication of the scale of the programme offered by festivals.

<sup>2</sup> The only primary school which the festivals did not engage with over the period of this study was Craiglockhart Primary School, but outside of that period the school has regularly participated in festivals' school programmes, most notably in the Edinburgh Science Festival's Generation Science programme.

### Engagement at ward level

Almond, Forth, Sighthill/Gorgie, Portobello/Craigmillar and Pentland Hills have among the highest engagement across the city in terms of engaging with festivals' school programmes. These wards also have some of the lowest festival attendances according to the Edinburgh People Survey (EPS) and we explore the possible relationship between audience attendance and school programmes later in this document [see page 12].



**Figure 1: Number of festivals' school programmes by ward**

### Pupil engagements

In terms of the number of pupil engagements, the picture is roughly similar. Forth ward has the highest number of engagements, but figures for Almond and Portobello/Craigmillar are also relatively high.

Colinton/Fairmilehead, which has among the lowest festivals' attendance recorded in the EPS, also has a relatively high number of participants in school programmes.

The Morningside ward has a relatively large number of pupil engagements because schools here are choosing to include large numbers of pupils in a few selected programmes, particularly Generation Science (run by Edinburgh Science) and Children's Festival performances.

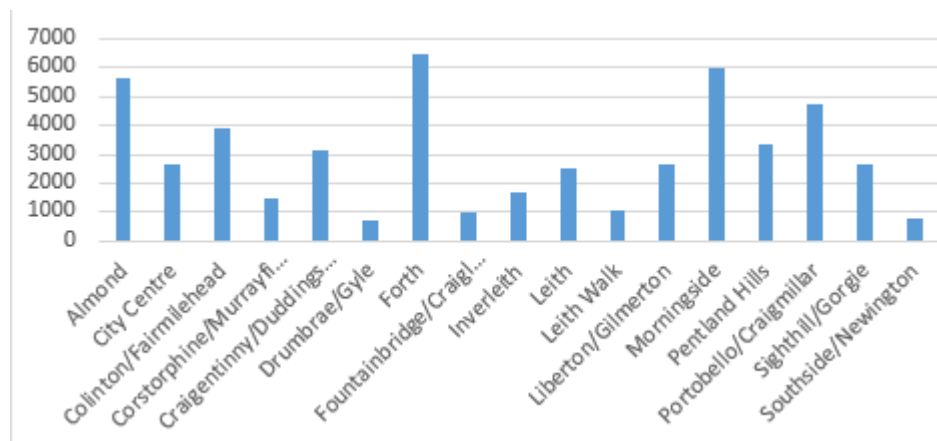


Figure 2: Pupil engagement by ward

### Engagement by school

In terms of the number of programmes, the schools who engaged most with festivals were Balgreen Primary School (12), Forthview Primary School (12), Canal View Primary School (11), Leith Academy (11), Royal High School (11), Davidson's Mains Primary School (10) and Towerbank Primary School (10).

Beyond this, Boroughmuir High School, Craigroyston Community High School, Craigroyston Primary School, Holy Rood RC High School and Lorne Primary School all engaged with nine programmes.

In terms of the numbers of pupil engagements, the following primary schools accounted for the highest numbers: South Morningside (2222 pupil engagements), followed by Towerbank (2104 pupil engagements), Davidson's Mains (1948 pupil engagements), and Canal View (1881 pupil engagements).

The high numbers of pupil engagements at South Morningside and Davidson's Mains are mainly due to large numbers of participating in Generation Science (run by Edinburgh Science) or performances at the Children's Festival.

Taking a view across both programmes and pupil engagements, it is possible to see the schools who are engaging most with festivals:

School	Number of Programmes	Pupil Engagements
Towerbank Primary School	10	2104
Forthview Primary School	12	1415
Davidson's Mains Primary School	10	1948
Canal View Primary School	11	1881
Craigroyston Primary School	9	766

Table 2: Number of Programmes and Engagements at schools

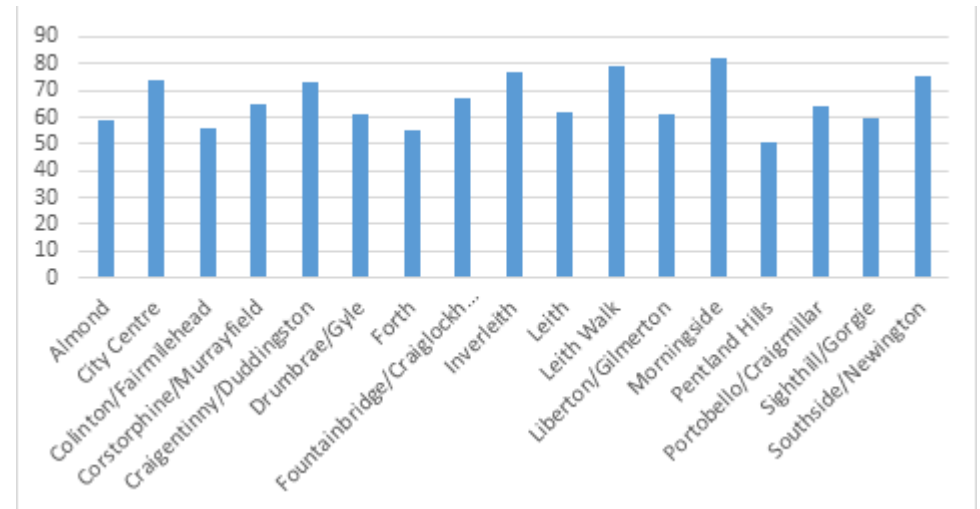


**Figure 3: Festivals' school engagement mapped on Google Maps<sup>3</sup>**

### Correlation with Festival Attendance Information

At this stage it would be useful to examine the actual attendance at the main festival programmes to identify whether there is any correlation between such figures and the schools engagement activity.

The Edinburgh People Survey<sup>4</sup> (EPS) for 2018 helps to refine the actual audience for Edinburgh's Festivals. Its findings show attendance at festivals based on council ward, which offers a more detailed picture of which areas of the city are represented in the festivals' audiences.



**Figure 4: Percentage attendance at Festivals in 2018**

<sup>3</sup> Google Map can be found at <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1T-7EuVF-UoN4WESwZwUWyO4yOx3jc7vm&ll=55.93374699832722%2C-3.2572500999999647&z=11>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/13249/edinburgh-people-survey-2018-results>

The Scottish Household Survey<sup>5</sup> (SHS) offers a broad indication of the profiles of people likely to attend or participate in cultural activity. The level of qualification is the strongest indicator of likelihood to engage with cultural activities of all demographic characteristics:

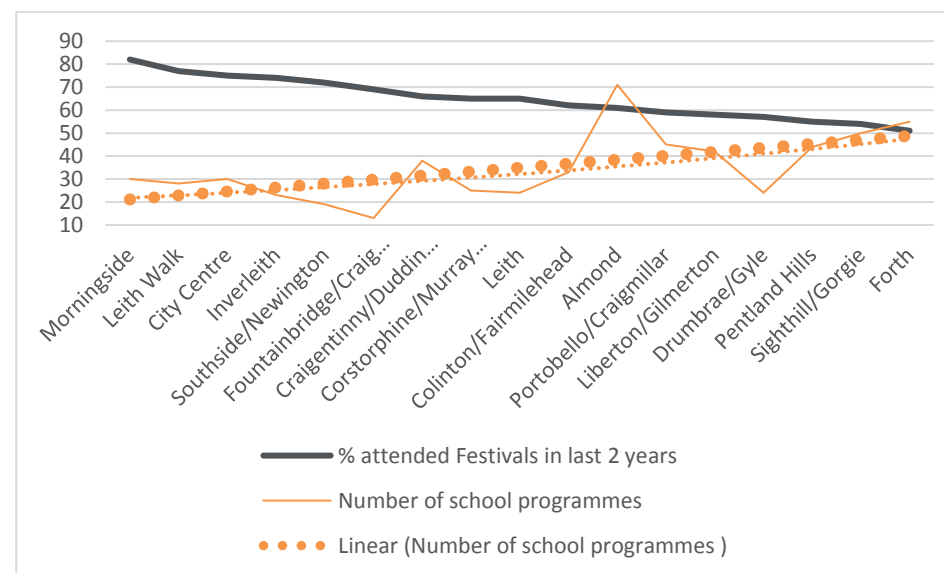
- attendance at cultural places and visiting places of culture is highest for those with degrees or professional qualifications (93%). Attendance is lowest for those with no qualifications (50%)
- participation in any cultural activity is highest amongst adults with a degree or professional qualifications (94%) and lowest for those with no qualifications (58%).

The SHS also shows that economic background is another major factor in determining participation in/attendance at cultural activity:

- cultural attendance by adults was 70% in the most deprived and 88% in the least deprived. If cinema attendance is excluded, the differences are even more pronounced (60% compared with 83%).

It comes as no surprise therefore that those Edinburgh wards with areas identified as among the most deprived by the Scottish Indices of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 1) have relatively lower attendance at the Festivals: for example, Forth 55% (including West Pilton and Granton), Pentland Hills 51% (including Wester Hailes) and Almond 59% (including Muirhouse).

However what is notable is that there appears to be a correlation between those wards with lower audience attendance and those wards engaged with a higher number of schools programmes, as noted in the following illustration:



**Figure 5: Correlation between audience attendance and schools engagement**

One can clearly see that those areas such as Morningside which have the highest percentage of audience attendance of any ward in the city also have the lowest number of targeted festival school programmes of any ward in the city – and correspondingly, areas such as Forth which have the lowest percentage of audience attendance of any ward in the city also have the highest number of targeted festival school programmes of any ward in the city.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.scottishhouseholdsurvey.com/>

Although this is not exact across all wards, with pockets of low attendance and low schools programmes still existing, the linear trendline – which evens out the activity across all peaks and troughs – clearly identifies an inverse correlation between levels of general audience attendance and levels of targeted school programmes across the Edinburgh Festivals.

### Conclusion

It is clear that through their work with schools, the festivals are successfully engaging with areas of the city and communities that would otherwise tend not to participate in their programmes.

The council wards which record the lowest attendance at festivals are among the highest in terms of taking part in school programmes and numbers of engagements. Many of these wards have areas which are in SIMD 1 –2 data zones, among the most deprived in the country.

Similarly, many of the individual schools that feature highly in terms of programmes and participants, also have high numbers of pupils from the 20% most deprived data zones.

From consultations with the festivals it seems this is partly because these schools are being prioritised, to ensure their offer is more inclusive.

In overall terms, 38% of schools in Edinburgh have a higher than average proportion of pupils from the most deprived SIMD data zones. Over the period of this study, these schools accounted for 46% of the festivals' programmes engaged with, showing that the focus of festivals' activity is in areas of the city with the highest levels of deprivation.

Further research is continuing to understand the needs and priorities for schools, and to gain new insights into potential barriers and opportunities for the festivals in working with them.

## 5. Festivals' School Programmes

Below are some examples of the regular schools programmes associated with each of the major Edinburgh Festivals, except for The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo which does not offer targeted school programmes but rather engages with school pupils through their wider charitable activities. Many of the festivals were also awarded funding from 2019 through the Platforms for Creative Excellence (PlaCE) programme to extend their engagement with schools.

### Edinburgh Science Festival

#### Regular programme

Generation Science – a Scotland-wide programme providing shows and workshops from February through to June each year. It has a significant presence in Edinburgh visiting 69 primary schools and delivering 320 workshops. There are also visits to schools across Scotland from January to May each year. Workshops are available for ages P1 – P7, and can last for up to 75 minutes, accommodating up to 70 pupils, depending on the requirements of the workshop. Supporting resources are available online.

<https://www.sciencefestival.co.uk/generation-science>

CareersHive – An immersive careers event for S1-S3 pupils, highlighting opportunities from STEM subjects, and hosted at the National Museum of Scotland. Schools are targeted to ensure the event is inclusive, promoting access to pupils from a wide geographical area and economic background.

<https://www.sciencefestival.co.uk/careershive>

Science in the Spotlight – A specially commissioned piece of theatre introducing a science theme, which has formed a part of the Festival programme since 2016. The project has been developed in partnership with Imagine and Starcatchers.

### Edinburgh International Children's Festival

#### Regular programme

The Children's Festival programme is promoted to schools through a special brochure, highlighting curriculum links. At the end of schools' performances there is a Q&A session, and a travel subsidy scheme is in place to support transport costs. A series of resources for teachers are available via the website (<https://www.imagine.org.uk/schools/learning-resources>)

Theatre in Schools Scotland – Delivered in partnership with National Theatre of Scotland by the year-round organisation behind the Children's Festival, Imagine, this is a three-year project to bring a series of specially curated performances to schools throughout the country.

#### PlaCE initiatives

Inspiring schools is a three-year initiative working intensively with a selection of schools, and consists of two programmes:

Immerse – Working with six Edinburgh primaries, aims to embed theatre and creativity through in-school performances, artist residencies over 10 weeks, visits to Festival performances and creative workshops. The programme started in autumn 2019 with schools hosting the immersive experience The Lost Lending Library, which aims to promote literacy and writing skills (<https://www.imagine.org.uk/artists/projects/inspiring-schools-immense>).



Explore – A programme which works with 15 Edinburgh and Lothians schools, with the aim of sparking interest in live performance through experiencing a broad range of theatre and dance. Each school will host an in-school theatrical performance, followed by CLPL sessions for teachers and an opportunity to see a performance at the Children’s Festival

(<https://www.imaginate.org.uk/artists/projects/inspiring-schools-explore>).

Teachers’ Theatre Club - a joint project with the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, which works with teachers from 10 Edinburgh schools. Participants have the opportunity to see a variety of live performances through the year and meet key sector professionals, increasing their confidence in using live performing arts in the classroom

(<https://www.imaginate.org.uk/artists/projects/teachers-theatre-club/>).

## Edinburgh International Film Festival

### Regular programme

Edinburgh & Lothians Schools Film Competition – Annual open competition with entries judged by young people studying media studies at Edinburgh schools, who also present the films and awards at the awards event.

(<https://screen-ed.org/edinburgh-schools-film-competition/>).

Understanding Cinema – A national film education and film making project, where professional film tutors work with schools through the academic year, culminating in screenings of the films at the Festival in June.

Screenings for schools – Special film screenings for schools are an integral part of the annual programme. In 2018 films seen by Edinburgh schools were Incredibles2, SuperModo and Science Fair.

Media Days – Designed to offer an insight into the film industry for S5 & S6 pupils, this series of Festival events includes screenings of a film premiere and an opportunity to hear from visiting professionals from the creative industries.

### PlaCE initiatives

The Youth HQ based at the Cornerstone Centre offers a wide range of activities during the Festival aimed at 15-25 year olds, including careers advice sessions, networking, hands on workshops and masterclasses. In partnership with Screen Education Edinburgh, an outreach project also offers workshops for pupils in film-making for targeted secondary schools, followed by focused work to produce a film to be screened at the Youth HQ during the main Festival.

## Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival

### Regular programme

Summer schools – In partnership with Edinburgh Napier University, the Festival organises two courses, the Jazz Summer School and the Sing Jazz Course. Each course last five days during the Festival and culminates with the students performing a gig as part of the programme.

### PlaCE initiative

In 2019 a new post was created to develop a community engagement programme based on the Festival Carnival programme. Under this programme, the Festival worked with P1-P4 pupils at Dalry Primary School between May – June 2019. A group of 14 artists from around the world stayed in Edinburgh for three months around the Festival, and each led a creative session with a class at the St Bride’s Centre. The performance pieces created by each class came together in an assembly, performed for the whole school and parents.

## Edinburgh Art Festival

### Regular programme

Schools week - In 2018 Edinburgh Art Festival offered a Schools Week with tours of Festival exhibitions and creative activities, developed in partnership with City of Edinburgh Council Creative Learning and the venues themselves. Schools week sought to engage children and young people with contemporary art and the Festival, through in-depth exploration and practical activities, creating a memorable, whole day experience.

### PlaCE initiatives

In March 2019 a Community Engagement Manager was appointed to develop a new programme of year-round activities, with the aim of developing longer term relationships with specific schools. The initial focus is on Wester Hailes, working in close partnership with WHALE Arts in co-creation activities with the community, with the aim of commissioning a new artwork for the area in 2021. From January 2020 a series of creative projects started with local schools, initially Sighthill Primary and Wester Hailes Education Centre, with further work planned with Clovenstone and Canal View Primary School.

## Edinburgh International Festival

### Regular programme

The Virgin Money Schools concert is an annual open-air concert in Princes Street Gardens with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, offered to P7 classes. Online resources and CLPL sessions for teachers are offered to accompany the music featured in the concert. The Art of Listening is a music-based workshop for P7 pupils to increase their understanding of music. The two-hour workshop takes place in The Hub, with transport provided to all schools attending, and is offered from Autumn – Spring each year.

Young Musicians Passport enables holders to get one free ticket plus one half price adult ticket to a selection of classical music concerts. The scheme is targeted at young people at school in Edinburgh or the Lothians, who are part of a music group or choir. Herald Young Critics is a critical writing project for Advanced Higher English, Music and Drama classes bringing young people from across Edinburgh to see performances, with their critical responses published online by The Herald, and a winner receiving the Wee Cherub Award as part of the Herald Angels awards.

The Festival also regularly offer a series of projects linked to the performances in the main programme. In 2018 these included activities for P7 pupils based on the play End of Eddy, and music workshops for secondary schools bringing the opera La Cenerentola into the classroom, along with an opportunity to attend the production. The Kadamati project saw a mass performance by 300 young dancers from Scotland at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, with pupils from Broughton High and Leith Academy. In 2019 these included an opera project based on the performance of Eugene Onegin, and the Heart of Hollywood programme linked to the festival's opening event at the Tynecastle stadium.

The Leith Academy three-year residency is designed to enrich the life of the school, involving new cultural opportunities as well as developing pupils' personal and vocational skills. The residency is overseen by a group of young people from the school and includes a series of projects, with pupils working with artists in residence, designing a brand with the Festival's marketing team, staging their own show, and taking part in social trips to experience music, dance, visual art and drama. In addition, students are supported to gain a Personal Development Award at SQA level 6, including workplace experience with staff at the Festival - <https://www.eif.co.uk/about/learning-and-engagement/young-people/leith-academy>.

### **PlaCE initiatives**

My Festival: My Story – A project for P6 pupils linked to the theatre company 1927's production of *Roots*, exploring the creation of folktales. The programme featured animation and storytelling workshops delivered by Scottish artists mentored and trained by 1927. Primary schools involved included Flora Stevenson, Echline, James Gillespie's and Trinity.

Festival Young Ambassadors – A programme working with local young people attending Tynecastle and Leith Academy, offering an opportunity to co design and contribute to festival projects with their peers and community outreach for the festival's opening event in Gorgie and Dalry.

## **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**

### **Regular programme**

The Fringe's annual schools poster competition ran from 1980 – 2018 and was open to all schools across Scotland. The competition was concluded in 2019, as part of the festival's consultation on the development of a new schools programme. In 2018, as part of the Fringe Days Out scheme, the Fringe worked with Gracemount High School to offer an opportunity for pupils to experience the festival. Shows were selected by a panel of pupils, along with free tickets, travel and lunch to help overcome some of the barriers to seeing live performances.

### **PlaCE initiatives**

Following a consultation with teachers in 2018, the Fringe appointed a Learning Officer last year to engage directly with schools and manage a new programme of activities. This aims to connect artists with Edinburgh schools for performances and longer-term projects, facilitating school visits to allow Edinburgh learners to make the most of the Fringe, make it easier for teachers

to navigate the Fringe, offering advice and support to schools wishing to perform, and creating a new resource showing the many different careers routes offered by the festival. Through the programme, the Fringe also engaged with Victoria, Craigour Park, St Catherine's, Liberton, St John Vianney, Craightinny and Gracemount Primary Schools, Craigmount High School, Redhall School and Cowgate Under 5 Centre (<https://www.edfringe.com/learn/learning>).

Teachers' Theatre Club is a joint project with the Edinburgh International Children's Festival, which works with teachers from 10 Edinburgh schools. Participants have the opportunity to see a variety of live performances through the year and meet key sector professionals, increasing their confidence in using live performing arts in the classroom (<https://www.edfringe.com/learn/learning/teachers-theatre-club>).

The Fringe Society worked with eight primary schools, one Additional Support Needs (ASN) school and one nursery across Edinburgh in 2019, facilitating visits to the Fringe for 390 learners, many for the first time. The Society also facilitated over 100 young people from Edinburgh and across Scotland to perform as part of the Virgin Money Street Events during the Fringe.

## **Edinburgh International Book Festival**

### **Regular programme**

The Bailie Gifford Schools Programme runs alongside the main schedule of events centred on Charlotte Square Gardens. This extensive programme offers a variety of types of activity, from storytelling and author interviews to Q&A sessions with authors and creative workshops, for pupils from P2 – S6. The Bailie Gifford Gala Day is devoted to primary schools, with its own schedule of events and creative workshops. To support each of the events, there are also

dedicated online resources and a series of linked Career-Long Professional Learning (CLPL) sessions for teachers. A transport fund assists schools with the costs of travel (<https://learning.edbookfest.co.uk/schools/baillie-gifford-schools-programme/>)

### **PlaCE initiative**

Citizen – A three-year long-term creative programme of residencies, projects and events, working in partnership with communities and organisations across Edinburgh. Citizen sets out to explore the ideas of neighbourhood and community and how these relate to a sense of identity and belonging in today's world. From January 2019, writer Claire Askew has been working with students from Craigryston, Liberton and Broughton High Schools. The results were showcased at the Festival in August by the pupils who took part, along with a series of Citizen themed events over 19-20 August.

<https://ontheroad.edbookfest.co.uk/blog/citizen-making-zines-with-claire-askew/>.

## **Scottish International Storytelling Festival**

### **Regular programme**

The Scottish international Storytelling Festival and the year-round organisation behind it (TRACS – Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland) engages with schools as part of its outreach programme, which takes an inclusive cross-generational approach. The Storytellers Network is supported to work with schools, with extra assistance offered for those who have not previously engaged with storytelling. A focus for this work is the community programme associated with the Scottish International Storytelling Festival which runs from September to the end of November. This ends with Book Week Scotland, enabling a link to the Scottish Book Trust's Live Literature programme (<https://www.sisf.org.uk/community-programme/>).

### **PlaCE initiatives**

In 2019 the Festival focused its community programme in Restalrig-Lochend, with a series of projects inspired by local heritage. Storytellers engaged with local primary schools as part of an intergenerational project, inspired by the work of teacher James Ritchie who recorded children's street games in the area in the 1950s. The project brought pupils and older residents together to compare and discuss the games of the past and present. Edinburgh schools also participated in two other projects looking at the traditions and folklore of the city, inspired by its holy wells and springs and the topography of the seven hills.

## **Edinburgh's Hogmanay**

### **Regular programme**

In 2018 #ScotArt was a nationwide project for the Year of Young People partially promoted through schools, with workshops in 14 regions across Scotland, where young people worked together to create a symbol that represents their region. Each symbol was constructed into a full-size wicker sculpture and displayed for the public along the Royal Mile until 30 December, when they formed the focal point of Edinburgh's Torchlight Procession. The workshops involved a co-design with 289 young people from across Scotland, with discussion and crafting sessions. Since 2017 the Message from the Skies creative writing project has also been open to schools in Edinburgh, the Lothians and Stirlingshire. Young people are invited to send submissions on a chosen theme, and the winners have their piece of writing projected on to city centre landmarks, as part of the main Hogmanay lighting event. This year winning entries came from Edinburgh Pentlands and St Margaret's Primary Schools.

## 6. Case Studies by City Ward: Schools Engagement in Festivals' Programmes

### Almond

**Craigroyston Community High School** has been involved with 8 festival programmes since 2018, including the Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh International Film Festival, Edinburgh International Festival and the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Earlier this year pupils from the school participated in the Edinburgh Science Festival's Careers Hive event, an annual immersive careers education event which looks to highlight potential opportunities for young people in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) industries.

### City Centre

**St Mary's RC Primary School** has been involved with 5 festival programmes, engaging with the Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh International Festival and the Edinburgh Science Festival. Pupils are regular participants in the Edinburgh International Book Festival's Bailie Gifford Schools Programme, which promotes literacy and an interest in books, enabling pupils to meet and question authors, and take part in creative activities in the heart of the Festival in Charlotte Square Gardens.

### Colinton/Fairmilehead

**Bonaly Primary School** has close links with the Edinburgh International Children's Festival, and as well as attending performances, teachers from the school are taking part in two initiatives funded through the PlACE

programme. Teachers' Theatre Club is a new 3-year programme run in partnership with the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, which aims to inspire teachers to use live performance in the classroom. The Explore project is another 3-year programme, which will see the school host a live performance, along with artists' workshops and visits to the Children's Festival.

### Corstorphine/Murrayfield

**Carrick Knowe Primary School** has an established relationship with the Edinburgh International Festival, and regularly participates in their learning programmes. Pupils took part in the Soul Boxes workshop in 2018, a special art project asking P7 children to reflect on their memories and explore what it is to be a Festival City child. Classes from the school have also participated in the festival's Art of Listening music workshops, and attended the Festival's opening event and Virgin Money Fireworks Concert.

### Craightinny/Duddingston

**Holy Rood RC High School** has been involved in 8 festival programmes, offered by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Science Festival. Pupils have participated in a series of the International Festival's school programmes, including Herald Young Critics, La Cenerentola opera project, and workshops linked to a theatre performance of The End of Eddy. Early last year, pupils from the school participated in the Edinburgh Science Festival's Careers Hive event, which looks to highlight potential opportunities for young people in STEM industries.

## Drum Brae/Gyle

**St Andrew's Fox Covert RC Primary School** has participated in 6 programmes, run by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh International Festival and the Edinburgh Science Festival. A class from the school regularly attend the Book Festival's Bailie Gifford programme in August, which promotes literacy and an interest in books through a range of workshops, storytelling, creative activities and author events. Some 210 pupils from P2-7 classes also participated in the Science Festival's Generation Science workshops, hands-on interactive activities delivered in the classroom.

## Forth

**Forthview Primary School** has a particularly strong relationship with the festivals, being involved with 8 programmes and 1,400 pupil engagements since 2018. The school regularly attend performances at the Children's Festival, and the Book Festival's Bailie Gifford programme. It is also part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society's Children and Young People scheme, which offers free Fringe vouchers and bus tickets, to help overcome some of the barriers for pupils and their families to see shows. Forthview Primary is participating in the Children's Festival's Immerse project, a 3-year initiative started in autumn 2019 with the school hosting the production 'The Lost Lending Library'.

## Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart

**Boroughmuir High School** has participated in 7 programmes, offered by Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Science Festival. The school has a good relationship with the International Festival, with pupils

participating in a series of programmes, including Herald Young Critics, La Cenerentola opera project, and workshops linked to the theatre performance of The End of Eddy. In February 2019, some 425 pupils from the school attended the Science Festival's Career Hive event, which looks to highlight potential opportunities for young people in STEM industries.

## Inverleith

**Broughton High School** has participated in several special projects with festivals over the past two years. In 2018 pupils took part in the International Festival's Kadamati project, which saw hundreds of local dancers take part in a free outdoor-performance at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, commemorating the end of World War One. In 2019 Broughton High was one of the schools involved in the Book Festival's Citizen project, hosting writer-in-residence Claire Askew to work with pupils. The project aims to bring people of all ages together with a platform for to speak about their communities through creative writing, with pupils performing their writing as part of the Citizen event at the Book Festival in August.

## Leith

**Leith Academy** has a long standing relationship with many festivals, regularly participating in programmes such as the Book Festival's Bailie Gifford programme, and the Science Festival's Career Hive. The Edinburgh International Festival is partnering with Leith Academy for a three-year residency, opening up a series of unique cultural opportunities for pupils, including workign with artists in residence and supporting pupils to gain Personal; Development Awards. Pupils from the school also participated in the Edinburgh International Film Festival's Media Days workshops. These special study days offer insight into the film industry, with contributions from

directors, writers, cinematographers, and craftspeople attending the main festival. The aim is to offer an in-depth cultural experience and also highlight possible future career paths into the film industry.

### Leith Walk

**Drummond Community High School** has been involved with 5 festival programmes since 2018, offered by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh Science Festival and the Edinburgh International Film Festival. Pupils from the school participate in the Edinburgh Science Festival's Careers Hive event, which looks to highlight potential opportunities for young people in STEM industries. In 2018 pupils from the school took part in Project Mbuzeni, based around a performance of the show which featured in the Edinburgh International Children's Festival.

### Liberton/Gilmerton

**Gracemount High School** has developed a close partnership with the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, offering a special programme to enable pupils to participate in the festival in 2018 and 2019. Pupils formed a Fringe committee to help select the shows for the young people to see, created a twitter account ([GHS@edfringe](https://twitter.com/GHS@edfringe)), and booked the shows themselves using a specially set up online account. Over 200 pupils from S1-6 have participated in the scheme each year, seeing 15 shows over the festival, often with exclusive behind-the-scenes access to meet performers and technical staff. As well as the access to performing arts, it was clear that the pupils valued the whole festival experience, seeing new parts of the city centre and learning about careers in creative industries.

### Morningside

Since 2018 **Bruntsfield Primary School** has participated in 5 festival programmes, with over 1,200 pupil engagements. The school are regular attenders at performances at the Edinburgh International Children's Festival, which offers a programme specifically tailored for a young audience. Pupils from the school also attend the Edinburgh International Festival's schools concert in Princes Street Gardens. P2-7 classes from Bruntsfield participated in the Science Festival's Generation Science workshops in 2018 and 2019, which offer hands-on interactive STEM activities delivered in the classroom.

### Pentland Hills

**Canal View Primary School** has close connections with several of the city's festivals, participating in 11 programmes over the last two years. The school is one of six Edinburgh primary schools participating in the Children's Festival's Immerse project, an ambitious 3-year initiative which supports creative learning. The project started in autumn 2019 with each school hosting the ground-breaking immersive theatre production 'The Lost Lending Library', which uses drama to support attainment in literacy. Staff from the school are also taking part in the Teachers' Theatre Club, a joint project between the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Edinburgh International Children's Festival, which aims to show how live performances can support teaching in the classroom.

### Portobello/Craigmillar

**Towerbank Primary School** has particularly strong connections with Edinburgh's festivals, engaging with 10 programmes since 2018. The school regularly visit the Book Festival as part of their Bailie Gifford programme, taking over 500 pupils last year to join in a range of workshops, storytelling,

creative activities and author events, alongside the main events in Charlotte Square Gardens. Towerbank participates in the Children's Festival and in 2018 took part in 'A Small Tale: A Teacher Led Adventure', a project which used staff-led storytelling as an innovative way of teaching literacy. The school also took part in the Science Festival's Generation Science workshops in 2018 and 2019, which offers interactive hands-on STEM activities delivered in the classroom.

### **Sighthill/Gorgie**

**Balgreen Primary School** has participated in 11 festival programmes since 2018, involving Edinburgh Art Festival, Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh International Children's Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh International Film Festival, Scottish International Storytelling Festival and the Edinburgh Science Festival. Balgreen Primary is a regular participant in the Edinburgh International Book Festival's Bailie Gifford Schools Programme, which offers a range of workshops, storytelling, creative activities and author events, to promote literacy and an interest in books.

### **Southside/Newington**

**Liberton Primary School** has good links with the festivals, participating in 7 programmes over the past two years. The school regularly visit the Book Festival as part of their Bailie Gifford programme, taking over 280 pupils last year to join in a range of workshops, storytelling, creative activities and author events, alongside the main events in Charlotte Square Gardens. In 2018 Liberton Primary took part in 'A Small Tale: A Teacher Led Adventure', a project organised by the Children's Festival which used staff-led storytelling as an innovative way of teaching literacy. Pupils have also participated in the

Edinburgh International Festival's school programme The Art of Listening, a music-based project introducing children to the Festival through song and live performance.



## Appendix: Engagement Data by Edinburgh School

Ward/School	Number of programmes	Number of pupil engagements
<b>Almond</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>5651</b>
Cargilfield School	2	370
Craigroyston Community High School	9	733
Craigroyston Primary School	9	766
Cramond Primary School	4	180
Dalmeny Primary School	2	207
Davidson's Mains Primary School	10	1948
Echline Primary School	5	95
Hillwood Primary School	4	326
Kirkliston Primary School	1	*
Oaklands School	5	325
Queensferry High School	6	105
Queensferry Primary School	3	*
Royal High School	10	566
St Margaret's RC Primary School	1	30
<b>City Centre</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2633</b>
George Heriot's Junior School	1	456
George Heriot's School	4	441
Royal Mile Primary School	6	312
St Mary's RC Primary School	6	697
St Thomas of Aquin's RC High School	6	411
Tollcross Primary School	5	316
<b>Colinton/Fairmilehead</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3914</b>
Bonaly Primary School	4	470
Braidburn Special School	3	281

Buckstone Primary School	6	1556
Colinton Primary School	6	130
Firrhill High School	6	289
Oxgangs Primary School	3	1010
Pentland Primary School	2	72
St Mark's Primary School	3	106
<b>Corstorphine/Murrayfield</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1506</b>
Carrick Knowe Primary School	5	29
Corstorphine Primary School	5	265
Erskine Stewart Melville School	3	444
Gylemuir Primary School	4	384
Roseburn Primary School	5	227
Stewart Melville College	1	28
The Mary Erskine School	2	129
<b>Craightinny/Duddingston</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>3141</b>
Abbeyhill Primary School	6	438
Craightinny Primary School	5	917
Holy Rood RC High School	9	595
Parsons Green Primary School	6	300
Royal High Primary School	7	269
St Ninian's RC Primary School	4	622
<b>Drumbrae/Gyle</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>741</b>
Clermiston Primary School	3	43
Craigmount High School	4	13
East Craigs Primary School	1	30
Forrester High School	4	20
Fox Covert Primary School	1	*
St Andrew's Fox Covert RC Primary School	8	559
St Augustine's High School	3	76

<b>Forth</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>6487</b>
Forthview Primary School	12	1415
Granton Primary School	6	657
Holy Cross RC Primary School	5	341
Pirniehall Primary School	3	637
St David's RC Primary School	6	1244
Trinity Academy	2	51
Trinity Primary School	6	450
Victoria Primary School	8	807
Wardie Primary School	7	885
<b>Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>957</b>
Boroughmuir High School	9	680
St Cuthbert's RC Primary School	5	277
<b>Inverleith</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1661</b>
Blackhall Primary School	3	544
Broughton High School	7	32
Edinburgh Academy	2	192
Edinburgh Academy Junior School	1	156
Ferryhill Primary School	5	82
Fettes College	1	*
Flora Stevenson Primary School	1	510
Rowanfield Primary School	2	15
Stockbridge Primary School	1	130
<b>Leith</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2054</b>
Hermitage Park Primary School	5	870
Leith Academy	11	101
Leith Primary School	5	888
St Mary's RC (Leith) Primary School	3	195
<b>Leith Walk</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1538</b>

Broughton Primary School	3	187
Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pàirce	3	159
Drummond Community High School	6	160
Leith Walk Primary School	5	394
Lorne Primary School	9	599
Pilrig Park Special School	2	39
<b>Liberton/Gilmerton</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2645</b>
Craigour Park Primary School	6	477
Edinburgh Montessori School	2	72
Gilmerton Primary School	6	360
Gracemount High School	6	252
Gracemount Primary School	3	185
Kaimes Special School	2	*
Liberton High School	6	424
St Catherine's RC Primary School	6	306
St John Vianney Primary School	5	569
<b>Morningside</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6022</b>
Bruntsfield Primary School	6	1212
George Watson's College	4	901
George Watson's Primary School	1	598
James Gillespie's High School	1	4
James Gillespie's Primary School	6	929
Royal Blind School	2	23
South Morningside Primary School	8	2222
St Peter's RC Primary School	2	133
<b>Pentland Hills</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3348</b>
Balerno High School	4	152
Canal View Primary School	11	1881
Clifton Hall School	2	88

Clovenstone Primary School	3	275
Currie Community High School	2	174
Currie Primary School	2	*
Dean Park Primary School	1	*
Juniper Green Primary School	1	66
Nether Currie Primary School	1	42
Pentland Primary School	2	213
Ratho Primary School	2	34
Sighthill Primary School	6	277
Wester Hailes Education Centre	4	142
Woodlands Special School	3	4
<b>Portobello/Craigmillar</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4726</b>
Brunstane Primary School	7	830
Castlebrae Community High School	5	60
Castleview Primary School	6	436
Duddingston Primary School	3	72
Newcraighall Primary School	3	229
Niddrie Mill Primary School	2	157
Portobello High School	2	29
St Francis RC Primary School	5	529
St John's RC Primary School	3	280
Towerbank Primary School	10	2104
<b>Sighthill/Gorgie</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2676</b>
Balgreen Primary School	12	730
Broomhouse Primary School	3	425
Dalry Primary School	8	369
Longstone Primary School	4	288
Murrayburn Primary School	5	107
Redhall Special School	4	71

St Joseph's RC Primary School	6	557
Stenhouse Primary School	2	81
Tynecastle High School	5	48
<b>Southside/Newington</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>782</b>
Liberton Primary School	8	433
Preston Street Primary School	4	118
Prestonfield Primary School	3	201
Sciennes Primary School	2	*
St Crispins Special School	2	30

*\* Data under analysis. In addition to the number of pupil engagements listed above, there were 7,656 pupil engagements in school programmes offered by the Edinburgh International Festival over the period of this study.*



EDINBURGH  
ART  
FESTIVAL



EDINBURGH'S  
HOGMANAY

Edinburgh International  
**Children's  
Festival**



Scottish International  
STORYTELLING  
FESTIVAL



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