



**41%**

**AUDIENCES FROM  
TARGET SCHOOLS**

**47%**

**AUDIENCES FROM  
TOP 10% MOST  
DEPRIVED AREAS  
IN UK**

# WARDROBES PROJECT REPORT

**WRITTEN BY ARCADE**

**"Incredible,  
amazing  
and fantastic,  
I loved it!"  
Albie, aged 6**



## → OUTPUTS

- 3 Primary Schools taking part over 5 weeks
- Over 180 pupils & 10 teaching staff
- 2 school trips to cultural spaces for 180 children
- 2 artist-led workshops in school for 180 children

## → PUPIL INSIGHTS

- 2 out of 3 schools with above average pupil premium levels indicating their pupils face multiple disadvantage
- Between 0 and 50% of pupils had never visited the Art Gallery or Library before
- Teachers reported that approximately 50% of their pupils struggled with motivation to write and confidence before the project, which reduced to just 25% during the project

## → IMPACT

"I have been teaching a long time and I never have I been involved in such a project that has impacted children and staff the way this has... It has shown me what my class are capable of, I have seen strengths in some children that I haven't seen all year and it has helped them and me build an even stronger relationship together. This project is just amazing for any child to have the opportunity to participate in"

- Gladstone Road School, teacher

"Something that stood out to me was that the children who chose to talk about why they had selected the book were children who are naturally quiet in class, who have individual needs, are on our SENd register but at that moment they talked confidently, in front of strangers, they hadn't rehearsed anything and didn't need any prompting - it melted my heart. Independently, the children performed their story, no one dominated, they all show respect for each group and were generally proud of what they achieved. It was quite an emotional moment to see the strength they demonstrated in working as a team, I was so proud of them"

- Gladstone Road School, teacher

"This was the best day of my life"

Theo, aged 8, after Art Gallery trip



# SCHOOLS ADVENTURE

## The Experience

300 primary school children from Gladstone Road Primary, St Peter's RC and St George's RC Schools have experienced an interactive, time-travel adventure show, taking place in their classrooms, local library and art gallery in summer term 2021. Children became heroes, solved problems by writing and performing, gained confidence and skills throughout. Culminating in an electric theatrical finale where children met their time-traveller, who burst through a magical bookcase, to listen to the children's performances and guidebook creations about modern life in Scarborough.

## Partners

Co-produced by KIT Theatre & ARCADE, commissioned by North Yorkshire Library Services & Scarborough Museums Trust and supported by the Stephen Joseph Theatre, Eat Me Cafe and National Literacy Trust. Project funders Arts Council England, Inspire Fund and Scarborough Children's University.

**" It gave me insights into skills I hadn't witnessed all year"**  
**Teacher**

## → OUTPUTS

- 9 performances
- 2 Eastfield based outreach workers
- 1 outreach campaign reaching local families
- 135 audience members attended
- 135 free healthy lunches given away

## → AUDIENCE DATA

Of the data collected for 117 attendees:

- 33% of child attendees from Eastfield primary schools
- Further 8% of child attendees from Scarborough primaries ranked highly for pupil premium
- 47% of attendees living in postcodes ranked in top 10% most deprived in UK

Full postcode & schools data tabled and attached

## → FEEDBACK

"I have worked in education, as a classroom teacher, for many years and this concept (and the quality of the actors involved) has really blown me away! The imaginative 'time travel' surprise element, when the character emerged from the wardrobe, was so effective and engaging and the children's expressions were priceless! So many different skills/ areas were covered in just one event; story telling, learning about historical events, speaking and listening, interactive tasks, questioning and researching to name but a few. I would fully recommend this workshop to any schools or educational organisations, looking to spark imaginations and engage children; leaving them inspired and fired up to learn more!" **Parent**

"My daughter took her 5 year old to start up the Summer Reading challenge this week and she ended up being invited to stay for the 'Wardrobe Professor' event – I think that's what it is called. She had only planned to collect books but the sheer enthusiasm of the team at the library was so infectious that she stayed for the whole session and my grandson really enjoyed it. She was even given a picnic bag so didn't have to cook tea later. Even his 14 month old brother got involved once he got over the shock!"

**Grandparent**

"It was great to see so many children from the estate schools take part"

**Teaching Assistant**



# FAMILY ADVENTURE

## The Experience

This Summer we called upon all daring children from Eastfield to help solve clues and welcome someone from the past in an immersive theatre experience. It turned out that C.S Lewis was onto something with the Narnia books: Wardrobes really are portals between worlds. What dear old C.S might not have known is that most of these accidental time-travelling wardrobe explorers ended up in Scarborough: and it was down to the town's children to help them out.

**"The library felt alive for the first time in over a year" More Than Books Trustee**



## → OUTPUTS

- Whole school took part
- 5 classes of children & 15 teaching staff
- 3 artists engaged as artists in residence at school for 5 days
- 5 planning days with teachers
- 2 days of consultancy from leading inclusive theatre maker Anna Newell

## → PUPIL INSIGHT

- One class with children with PLMD
- Pupils have a big range of educational needs and disabilities

## → FEEDBACK

"The children in Class 3 loved the visit from the Farlandians. It was pitched perfectly and our children, all of whom have complex medical needs and significant learning difficulties were able to engage with the story and use their senses to explore aspects of Farlandia. A particular highlight was B singing a duet with Rebecca, something he had never done before. He has continued to do this with our class team and the music therapist."

### - Springhead School Teacher



# SEND ADVENTURE

### The Experience

The Springhead Adventure was a bespoke R&D project created through discussions with staff and responses from pupils from Springhead Specialist School. It was also inspired by guidance from consultant Anna Newell.

Three artists, Rebecca Denniff, Chris Singleton & Nina Hughes, spent an intensive week at Springhead School in character as visitors from Farlandia, a far away land, where they shared their traditions with the children and learnt about the children's own traditions, super powers and interests.

The school has 5 classes and every class had a different and distinct artistic journey. This project emerged organically and responsively over the intensive residency week and artists utilised their creative skills and flexible attitude to embrace the collaborative journey into the unknown.

**" KIT Theatre has certainly helped him to find his voice."**  
**- Springhead School Teacher**