

Participant evaluation Spring 2019

Questions and collated responses

There are many reasons why people come to Artspace classes: we would like to ask your opinion on aspects of this.

1) What is *your* main reason for attending classes at Artspace?

- Making friends/ meeting people/ being part of a community 46%
- Learning new skills/ developing arts skills/ being creative 74%
- Health benefits 25%

Other reasons:

- Providing a structure to the week and a reason to get out the house
- A space to create
- Providing a break from being a carer
- The accessibility means people can get out and participate
- The diversity and opportunity to work alongside people of all abilities
- The quality of tuition.
- The content and variety on offer.
- It helps 'keep me active' and 'my brain working'.
- An opportunity to learn new things.
- The good teachers: they are drivers to all the other aspects.
- An interest in pottery and learning about ceramic processes

2) We hope that everyone who takes part in our classes and courses enjoys and learns from the arts activities provided, but do you think that participating in arts activities run by Artspace can also provide the following? Please circle

- Help people feel connected /a part of a community

Yes 96% No Sometimes 4%

- Help people make new friends

Yes 91% No Sometimes 9%

- Improve health and/or wellbeing in any other ways

Yes 93% No Sometimes 7%

3) Which factors in your opinion are important in this: EG: the activity/ the course and learning, tuition/ social aspects/other?

- Making friends/ company of like-minded people/meeting people : 56% (including comments addressing isolation and building a stronger community)
- Learning new skills/ developing skills / being creative 41%
- Relieves stress and other health benefits 18%

4) If these classes or projects did not run how would this affect you? How would you feel?

Unhappy; sad; disappointed; frustrated; depressed; isolated; bereft; annoyed; would have no social or creative outlet; there is nothing else like it.

Here are a selection of quotes from participants:

'I'm not good at making friends and the class is such a good way to meet people.'

'I would feel let down: FoD is not well served with affordable classes other than Artspace'

'I wouldn't leave the house; no interaction with people.'

'I can't put that in writing: it would be bad for my mental health.'

- It would make me more isolated and miserable and make me a lesser person and deny me the opportunity to join in with other people.'

- Artspace is easily accessible. I don't drive, Artspace has buses very close by. There wouldn't be anywhere else that I could access, so it would be quite devastating.

-It would make me feel very sad as it is a lovely place to attend. If I wasn't told about Artspace I wouldn't be where I am today.

-Without Artspace I would have nowhere to go. Artspace supports people with learning difficulties, mental health problems etc. if you put yourself in my situation and imagine what it is like for someone with agoraphobia and social anxiety. The world is frightening!!Artspace has helped me with my agoraphobia so it has lessened the effects of my disabilities. I am proud of Artspace and what they have accomplished.'

5) Please add anything else you would like to say

- Many classes elsewhere are no longer running, it is essential that Artspace continues to provide the classes.*
- Coursework is good and varied. The tutor is always positive and non-judgemental.*
- It keeps my mind active, gets me out of the house, keeps me stay motivated, find my feet in the world.*
- I walk to Artspace, so it gives me exercise. I learn new skills which keeps my mind active.*
- In an age of increasing social /community disintegration , art crosses all ages, cultures and ethnicities and breaks down barriers within groups. Artspace achieves inclusivity and learning. It's brilliant!*
- Sometimes it is easier to isolate yourself and stay at home in a cocoon – especially when money is an issue. But getting out to a class is so helpful –it cheers you up and inspires you.*
- To learn from others and to be in community with all people – mixed ability and share diversity*
- The mix of people and shared objectives*
- It provides two hours of clearing your head of everything going on in your life.*
- Creativity and imagination are important human givens*

And finally.....

How satisfied are you with the provision you participate in overall? **On a scale of 1-10. 1= not at all 10= very satisfied**

- Delivery of art classes and courses : tutors and content

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 very satisfied

87% very satisfied scored 10 out of 10: 7% scored 8: 6% scored 9

- Do you feel welcome at Artspace/ on Artspace courses?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 very welcome

95% felt very welcome: 1% scored 6: 1% scored 8: 3% scored 9

- How would you rate our courses/service regarding value for money? (please circle)

Poor value Fair value Good value Very good value

75% Very good value: 24% good value and 1% fair value

Thank you