

Press Release

11th March 2009

SCHOOL PUPILS' EXHIBITION SUCCESS!

Pupils from Westborough High School held a successful exhibition launch to celebrate their creative achievements.

A group of ten pupils unveiled an exhibition of photography, drawing and 3-D work at West Yorkshire Print workshop in Mirfield which ran from 3rd – 12th March.

The Year 10 pupils from Dewsbury worked with artist Amy Hirst in the gallery at West Yorkshire Print Workshop who kindly supported this project by providing free use of space. During the 8 week project they have learnt how to plan, curate and market their own exhibition as well as creating the art work for the show.

As part of the project the pupils had to hold their own launch event including creating invitations, organising refreshments and offering hospitality to visitors.

“The young artists clearly enjoyed the event. It was great to see all them so proud of their achievements and so keen to show visitors around the exhibition.” said Amy Hirst who developed this project in partnership with Westborough High School.

Westborough High School has Specialist status in Business Enterprise and Performing Arts and this project is one example of the innovative ways the school are engaging pupils in learning and raising aspirations.

Lynn White a Learning Mentor who works with the pupils said “It has been a unique opportunity for the pupils to meet lots of different artists and have contact with people in the working world who they wouldn't usually meet”.

The exhibition has attracted lots of interest and positive feedback from visitors to the centre on Huddersfield Road in Mirfield.

Karen Stansfield a visitor to the exhibition commented “It was wonderful to see all the young people's work, with such a diverse range of styles and techniques. The photo-collages are particularly inspirational! ”

Kate Desforges, technician at West Yorkshire Print Workshop also said “The event itself was well organised and the pupils have done a great job curating the work on display. It looks very professional.”

The pupils are studying for the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE), a vocational based qualification developed by the ASDAN training body. This art exhibition project will enable pupils to achieve three credits of the Expressive Arts module.

WYPW, funded by Arts Council England, is an Open-access Printmaking centre committed to creating opportunities for everyone to access the Arts. For more information see their website www.wypw.org

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