

# A Guide to the *Circuit* Evaluation Framework



# What is *Circuit*?

*Circuit* is a four year national programme connecting 15–25 year olds to the arts in galleries and museums working in partnership with the youth and cultural sector. Led by Tate and funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, it provides opportunities for young people to steer their own learning and create cultural activity across art disciplines.

*Circuit* involves Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Tate Liverpool, Tate St.Ives and partners from the Plus Tate network: Firstsite, Colchester; MOSTYN, Llandudno; Nottingham Contemporary; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; and Wysing Arts Centre and Kettles Yard, Cambridgeshire.

## *Circuit* Core Values

- Making a positive difference
- Young people's ownership, agency and authenticity
- Social, cultural and creative diversity
- Responsive and reflective practice

## *Circuit* Core Aims

- 1 To make a positive difference with and for young people
- 2 To improve access and opportunities for harder to reach young people through extending and developing sustainable networks between arts and youth sector
- 3 To develop and change practice within and across cultural organisations
- 4 To change attitudes and behaviours towards and about young people

# What does the framework do?

- Outlines evidence that needs to be gathered, relating to all programme aims and objectives
- Indicates dialogue that needs to take place for meaningful reflection, amongst all involved, to nurture a shared and explicit understanding of what is happening in the programme and the effect of the programme
- Shows the different roles involved in evidence gathering and monitoring of the framework

# How to use the framework

In conjunction with the appending documents the framework is a way of checking the evidence that needs to be collected, the timeline and the people involved.

## Key terminology clarification

**Aims** are the changes you are trying to bring about or the impact you intend the project to have. They are often expressed as:

To reduce... — To improve... — To increase...

**Outcomes** demonstrate the impact or the effect the work has had. Outcomes are always a consequence of realising a projects aims.

**Objectives** are the things you do to achieve the aims and therefore often describe the planned project activities. They are often expressed as:

To facilitate... — To support... — To stimulate...

**Outputs** are the quantifiable products and data relating to the project. Outputs are always a consequence of objectives being realised.

## The National Evaluation Team

In order to manage and implement the framework, the national evaluation team is on hand to support *Circuit* partners. Key contacts are:

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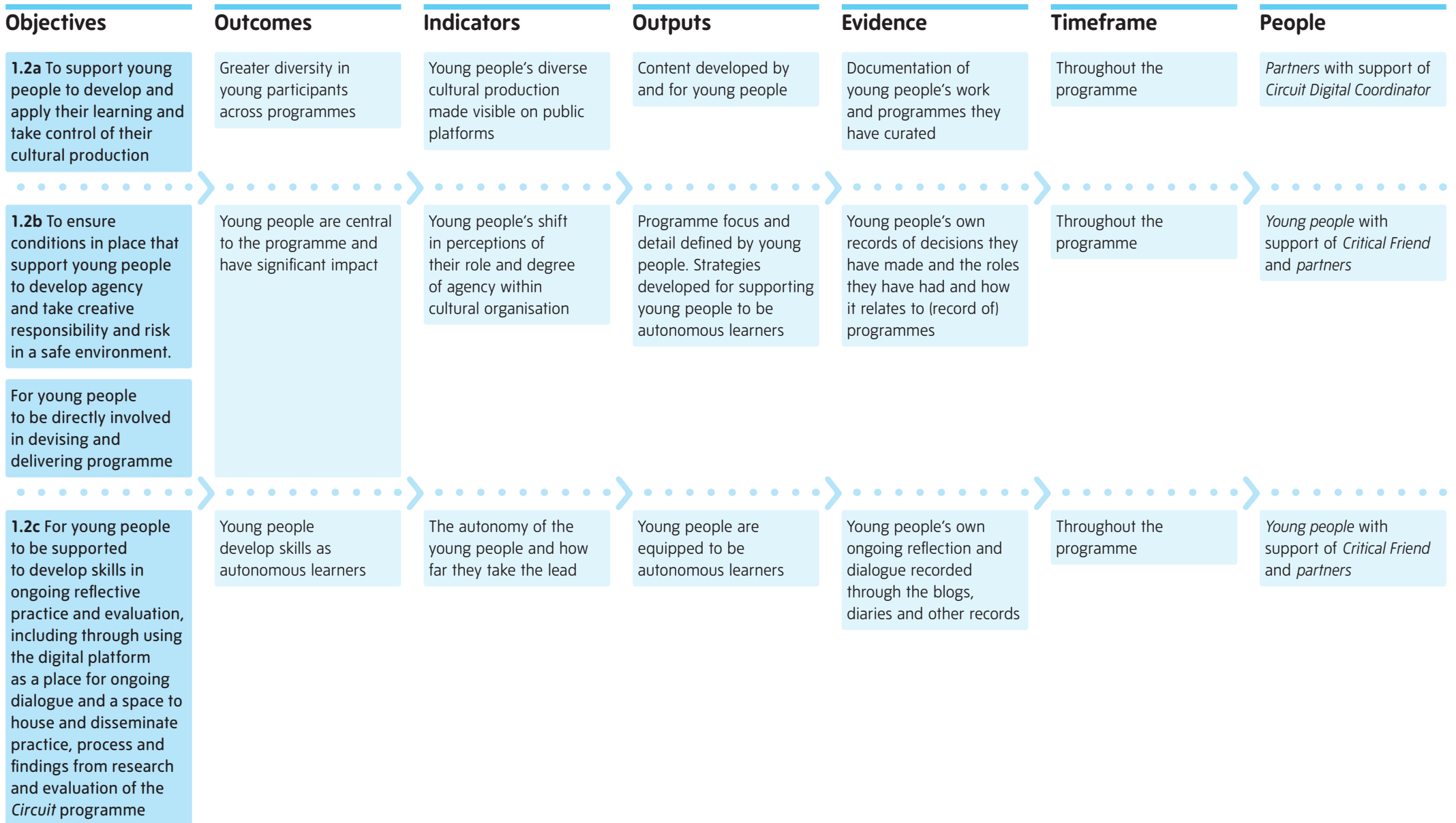
# 1 To make a positive difference with and for young people

1.1 To generate a programme with and for young people that is of social, emotional and cognitive benefit, which extends the reach of engagement to include young people from a greater diversity of backgrounds and extends and deepens the experience of all the young people engaged

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>1.1a</b> To develop new entry points for young people into cultural opportunities including multi-art form approaches</p>	<p>Greater diversity in young participants across programmes</p>	<p>Number and profile of young people engaged, including those from harder to reach groups</p>	<p>New entry points for young people into cultural opportunities, including multi-art form approaches</p>	<p>1 Audience figures 2 Participant profile questionnaire 3 Participant surveys 4 Focus group data</p>	<p>1-2 At each young people's event, activity 1-4 At each festival</p>	<p><i>Circuit Evaluator</i> tools for partners to use at events; additional festival support</p>
<p><b>1.1b</b> To develop programmes that provide personal development and progression and build critical knowledge and skills</p>	<p>Young people benefit in ways that are social, emotional and cognitive</p> <p>Young people have greater extent and depth of experience</p>	<p>Evidence of impact on personal, social and educational development of young people</p> <p>Young people's articulation of the value of their experiences</p>	<p>Programmes that provide personal development and progression and build critical knowledge and skills</p>	<p>Data identified and collected via tools developed with young people, including young evaluators from across partner organisations</p>	<p>Per year: 2x site visits to each gallery/young peoples group 2x national sharing events 4x young evaluator national sessions</p>	<p><i>Critical Friend</i> (site visits, young evaluators) <i>Evaluator</i> (quantitative data). <i>Circuit national team and partners</i> (sharing sessions)</p>
<p><b>1.1c</b> To deliver programmes on time and within budget that contribute to the strategic mission of the partner organisation their people and resources</p>	<p>Young people are introduced and continue to patronise the partner organisations. Employees perceive that they develop professionally and experience job satisfaction</p>	<p>Number of young people introduced and engaged</p> <p>Employee retention</p> <p>Programme delivered on time and budget</p>	<p>Number of first time and return visitors</p> <p>Extended media coverage</p> <p>Increased footfall</p> <p>Employee perceptions</p>	<p>1 Audience figures 2 Participant profile questionnaire 3 Participant surveys 4 Records of media coverage 5 Employee surveys 6 Event records</p>	<p>Throughout the programme, including at each event</p> <p>Arranged interview points with gallery staff</p>	<p><i>Circuit Evaluator</i> tools for partners to use at events. <i>Evaluator</i> interviews staff. <i>Critical Friend</i> develops further tools for partners</p>
<p><b>1.1d</b> To ensure a high quality programme, in terms of the quality of engagement and processes as well as content and experiences</p>	<p>Staff, young people, audiences and organisations are meaningfully engaged in the programme and influenced by its outcomes and outputs</p>	<p>Ways in which 'quality' has been defined and realised by young people programming events, teams planning the wider process and responses from audiences about quality</p>	<p>High quality productions and experiences</p>	<p>1 Positive reviews 2 Audience rating 3 Young people responses 4 Partner records of planning for achieving quality</p>	<p>Following events and festivals</p>	<p>Partner records of reviews and planning process; Evaluator tools used at events. <i>Critical Friend</i> work with young people</p>

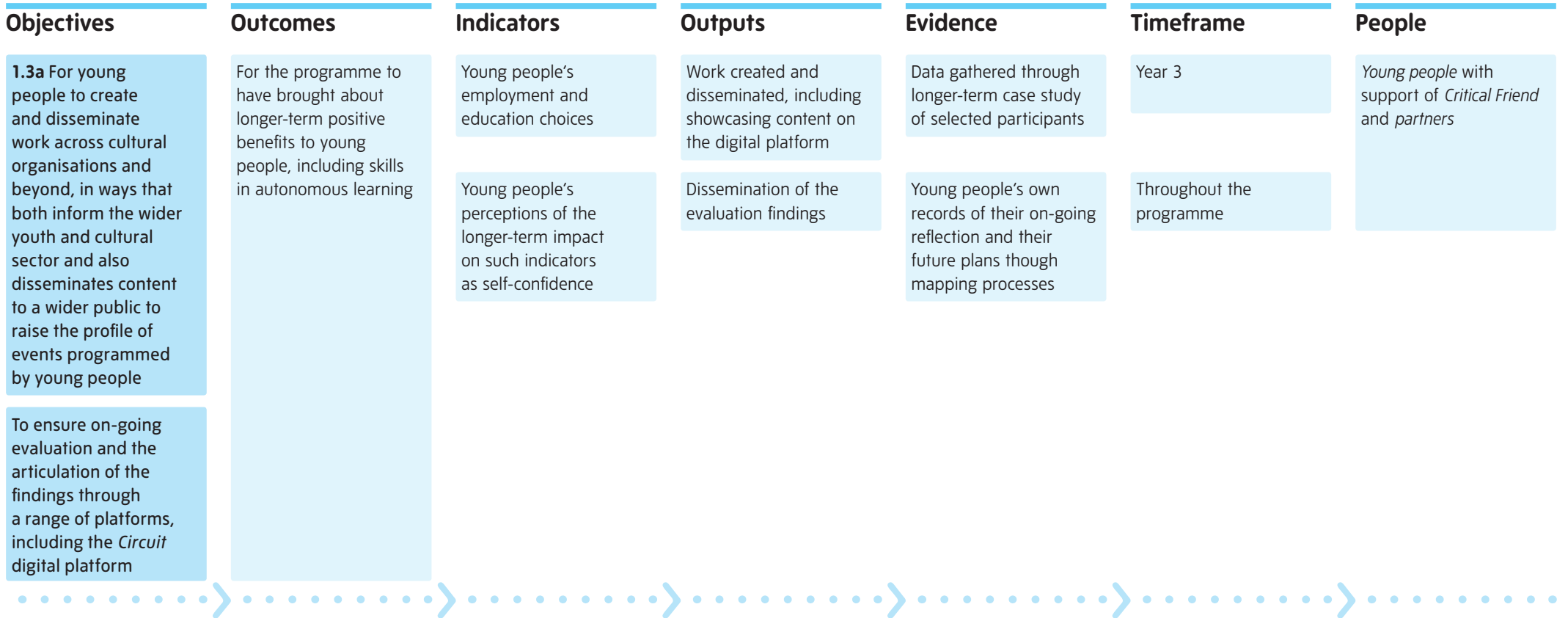
# 1 To make a positive difference with and for young people

1.2 For young people to have significant impact by producing culture that engages other young people and for young people's agency to be central to the programme



# 1 To make a positive difference with and for young people

## 1.3 To create a lasting impact and legacy with regards to making a difference to young people



## 2 To improve access and opportunities for harder to reach young people through extending and developing sustainable networks between the arts and youth sector

2.1 To develop strong partnerships between the Youth and Cultural sectors and thereby open dialogue and opportunity for those young people with least access and voice

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>2.1a</b> For all partners to identify and develop relevant partnerships with the youth sector</p>	<p>Sustainable cross-sector practice and processes in place that benefit the most vulnerable young people</p> <p>Cultural organisations acquiring knowledge and understanding of youth sector practice for working with young people with the least access</p>	<p>Number and quality of partnerships developed and sustained</p> <p>Number of young people engaged through partnerships</p> <p>Understanding of youth sector practice across partner organisations</p>	<p>Sustainable partnerships developed</p> <p>Knowledge developed and acquired across cultural organisations</p>	<p>Quantitative and qualitative data from:</p> <p>Questionnaires</p> <p>Surveys</p> <p>Focus groups</p> <p>Activity reports</p>	<p>At agreed points throughout programme</p>	<p>Tools developed by <i>Critical Friend</i> and <i>Evaluator</i></p> <p>Used by <i>partners</i> in cultural organisation and with <i>youth sector partners</i></p>

2.2 To engage hardest-to-reach young people through opportunities, entry points and pathways into cultural activities

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>2.2a</b> To create opportunities, entry points and pathways into cultural activities for the hardest-to-reach young people</p>	<p>More young people from hardest to reach groups participating in, devising and delivering cultural activity</p>	<p>Pathways that hard-to-reach young people use to progress through and beyond the gallery</p> <p>Number and profile of young people engaged</p>	<p>Pathways, entry points and opportunities developed</p>	<p>Records of pathways, entry points and opportunities that have engaged hard-to-reach young people</p> <p>Number and profile of young people engaged</p>	<p>Throughout the programme</p>	<p><i>Partners</i> with support of <i>Critical Friend</i> and <i>Evaluator</i></p>

## 2 To improve access and opportunities for harder to reach young people through extending and developing sustainable networks between the arts and youth sector

### 2.3 To open up progression routes for a greater diversity of young people

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>2.3a</b> To introduce, establish and deliver a broad portfolio of cultural opportunities</p>	<p>Greater diversity in young participants across programmes</p>	<p>Young people self-identify as being empowered individuals and autonomous learners</p>	<p>A broad portfolio of cultural opportunities and progression routes</p>	<p>Records of progression routes and cultural opportunities</p> <p>Young people's record of ongoing reflection. Specially developed questionnaires</p>	<p>Throughout the programme</p>	<p><i>Partners and young people with support of Critical Friend and Evaluator</i></p>

### 2.4 To create a lasting impact and legacy with regard to extending and developing sustainable networks

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>2.4a</b> To embed partnerships into organisations for long term network sustainability (i.e. in ways that are not reliant on existing individual staff members)</p>	<p>Sustainable cross-sector practice and processes in place that benefit the most vulnerable young people</p>	<p>The partnerships in place and the plans to continue working together beyond the programme</p>	<p>Partnerships in place beyond the life of the programme</p>	<p>Records of partnerships and evidence of future plans and the embedded nature of the partnership in the organisation</p>	<p>Throughout the programme</p>	<p><i>Partners with support from Critical Friend</i></p>

## 3 To develop and change practice within and across cultural organisations

### 3.1 To improve gallery informal learning practice with and for young people

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>3.1a</b> To develop best practice related to young people's engagement and informal learning with and through art</p>	Practice in place that brings about positive change for young people	Programme content and practice, including reflective practice and participatory evaluation, articulated and disseminated nationally and internationally.	Articulation and dissemination of (examples of) 'best practice'	Ongoing reflection, evaluation and articulation of findings	From year 2 onwards	<i>National Evaluation Team with partners and young people</i>

### 3.2 To gain new insight and knowledge into practice

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>3.2a</b> To develop effective and rigorous models of reflective practice and participatory evaluation</p>	Reflective practice embedded in ongoing working practice alongside effective and sustainable evaluation models	Models of effective and rigorous reflective practice and participatory evaluation developed	Effective and rigorous models of reflective practice and participatory evaluation	The models developed, records of the processes by / in which they were realised and analysis of their effectiveness	Throughout, with models being identified and agreed in year 3	<i>National Evaluation Team with partners</i>
To establish clear definitions, of what it is that happens whilst learning through art, and articulating these definitions in ways that can be understood across and outside of the cultural sector	Greater insight and knowledge of practice, across and outside of cultural sector	The definitions and an understanding of them from across and outside the cultural sector	Clear definitions, of what it is that happens whilst learning through art are established and articulated in ways that can be understood across and outside of the cultural sector	The definitions developed, their dissemination and responses to them from within and beyond the cultural sector	Throughout, with definitions being identified and agreed in year 3	



## 3 To develop and change practice within and across cultural organisations

3.3 To bring about positive and sustainable change in the partner organisations in ways that enable young people's agency to impact positively on the partner organisations

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>3.3a</b> For the programme to be understood across teams at partner organisations and for staff not involved in delivering <i>Circuit</i> to appreciate and build upon the opportunity to work in ways informed and/or led by young people</p>	<p>Ways of supporting work by and with young people embedded in organisations' systems and structures</p>	<p>Variety of institutional indicators to include young people's involvement in overall programme development, in and outside of <i>Circuit</i></p>	<p>Understanding and appreciation of the positive opportunities there are to develop work led by young people across all staff at partner organisations</p>	<p>Partners records of engagement with young people outside of <i>Circuit</i> in their organisations</p>	<p>Partners records kept throughout and qualitative interviews in years 2 and 3</p>	<p>Partners with support from <i>Critical Friend</i></p>
		<p>Young people's shift in perceptions of their role and degree of agency within cultural organisations</p>	<p>Young people have (lead) roles outside of <i>Circuit</i> at partner organisations</p>	<p>Young people's own records of the process and its impact for them, including mapping processes</p>	<p>Young people's own records and qualitative interviews in years 2 and 3</p>	<p>Young people with support from <i>Critical Friend</i></p>

3.4 To create a lasting impact and legacy with regard to developing and changing practice within and across cultural organisations

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>3.4a</b> To embed reflective practice in ongoing working practice alongside effective and sustainable evaluation models and through articulating, disseminating and raising the profile of the practice that develops through <i>Circuit</i></p>	<p>Practice is developed across partner organisations and informed across cultural organisations beyond <i>Circuit</i></p>	<p>The articles published, presentations at seminars and events that support the realisation of this aim and responses to the publications and presentations</p>	<p>Papers and articles published</p>	<p>Papers, articles published and presented and feedback about them</p>	<p>Years 3 and 4</p>	<p>National Evaluation Team</p>

## 4 To change attitudes and behaviours towards and about young people

### 4.1 To change attitudes and behaviours towards and about young people, increasing positive opinions about young people

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>4.1a</b> To profile young people's positive cultural contributions across the mainstream media, through the <i>Circuit</i> digital platform, through <i>Circuit</i> events, programmes and projects, disseminating <i>Circuit</i> to a wider public to raise the profile of young people</p> <p>To enable young people to represent themselves in positive ways through press and TV coverage</p>	<p>Changed debate, attitudes and behaviours towards young people</p>	<p>Profile of national programme, positive media coverage</p>	<p>Positive coverage in press and TV</p>	<p>Nature and quantity of media coverage</p>	<p>Throughout the programme</p>	<p><i>Circuit Marketing and Press Consultant</i></p>
		<p>Young people's articulation of change in attitudes and behaviours toward them</p>	<p>Young people represented positively through their own work, voices and ideas being profiled</p>	<p>Positive representations of young people and reflection on the impact of this coverage amongst young people and older people</p>	<p>Years 3 and 4, qualitative interviews with young people and older people</p>	<p><i>Critical Friend and Evaluator</i></p>

### 4.2 To create a lasting impact and legacy with regard to long term behaviours and opinions about young people

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Outputs	Evidence	Timeframe	People
<p><b>4.2a</b> For <i>Circuit's</i> findings and the practice developed to inform partner and other cultural organisations so that they can (continue to) support young people to maintain a positive profile.</p>	<p>Long term change in behaviours and opinions about young people</p>	<p>Extent to which partner organisations' PR teams, or similar staff, have a sense of value for and plan to continue to, work with young people</p>	<p>Long term strategies developed across organisations for young people to have a central role in representing their own work through the press and media</p>	<p>Partners' own records of organisational development and strategies for raising young people's profiles</p>	<p>Throughout and with strategies being articulated in year 3 and 4</p>	<p><i>Partners with support from Critical Friend</i></p>