

Bradford Made Conference Schedule

Bradford Live

Wed 12 Nov 2025

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
From 9.15am	Arrival and sign in Tea, Coffee & Pastries	Ballroom & Foyer
10–10.45am	Welcome & Housekeeping Presentation: Bradford 2025 Cultural Learning & Bradford Made Following an introduction by Shanaz Gulzar , Bradford 2025's Creative Director, the Cultural Learning team will be sharing their work across cultural learning throughout 2025, including their work with schools, SEND settings, alternative provision, and home educators. This includes an introduction to Bradford Made, Bradford 2025's online hub for educational resources, and Local Stories for Learners, a series of 15 activity packs centred around underrepresented histories of Bradford. Learn about the stories themselves and explore the process of creating packs that are useful, adaptable resources for educators from the project team behind them.	Ballroom
10.45–11am	BREAK	
11am–12pm Parallel Sessions	PANEL Changing the Narrative: Creating Space for Difficult Conversations The Local Stories for Learners packs explore histories not often taught in traditional classroom settings and some of them include topics that can be challenging to talk about for educators and learners alike such as race, faith, LGBTQIA+ histories, migration, and disability. This open discussion will feature a range of diverse perspectives and will explore: - Why representation matters in the histories we teach - How we can make safe spaces for challenging discussions, especially in the current political climate - How educators can combat misinformation - How can we answer learners' questions honestly, compassionately, and in an age-appropriate way	Ballroom

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
11am–12pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP Local Stories for Learners: Migration & Welcome Packs Discussed: A Spoonful of Sugar / Sanctuary Stories / Victor Wedderburn This is your chance to get hands-on with the new Local Stories for Learners activity packs! Explore the stories, workshop ideas with other educators, and have a go at some of the activities, facilitated by one of the practitioners who helped develop them.	Gaumont Bar
11am–12pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP The Creative Thinkers in Your Classroom Delivered by Creative Briefs Celebrate the diverse ways learners think and learn with this dynamic workshop introducing the Creative Briefs Design Process. This framework can be applied to any subject or topic and empowers learners to build agency, confidence and motivation by taking a more active role in shaping their own learning. You'll leave the workshop with practical tools to develop a flexible and adaptive pedagogy that allows learners to explore ideas and gather their knowledge in several ways while still achieving those all-important outcomes. Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	Boiler Room
11am–12pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP The Empty Chair Delivered by Alive & Kicking <i>At the end of what seems to be the longest corridor in the world an Empty Chair awaits us...</i> Alive & Kicking will introduce you to The Empty Chair, a drama tool that can be used as a launch for topics, for oracy work, to inspire writing opportunities, for cross-curricular planning, and for a host of other applications right across the Primary School range. This is a practical session in which you will use a variety of drama approaches including: - creating settings - marking moments in the history of a story - building on learners' ideas - facing fictional problems which we find in our narrative-making - devising soundscapes and landscapes And more! Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	VIP Room
12–1pm	LUNCH & NETWORKING Explore our Arts Market and find out about the cultural and creative learning offers from just some of our local partner organisations.	

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
1–2pm	KEYNOTE PANEL Rooted in Place: Arts, Heritage and Cultural Learning A dynamic discussion between some of the UK's leading experts in cultural learning and heritage about how we use stories to engage learners in compelling narratives. The panel will feature Dr Penny Hay, Professor of Imagination in the Research Centre for Cultural and Creative Industries, and Reader in Creative Teaching and Learning within the School of Education at Bath Spa University. Penny has worked extensively in arts education across the UK and co-ordinated the professional development programme for the National Society for Education in Art and Design (NSEAD). She integrates her experience in arts and education with participative action research, engaging individuals, institutions and communities. Her doctoral research focused on how as adults we support children's identity as artists. The panel will be moderated by Professor Briony Thomas, Professor of Applied Creativity at the University of Leeds. Briony is passionate about diversity and inclusion, and the transformative power of creative education. She is a University Public Engagement Champion specialising in collaborative arts-science initiatives with schools and communities. Many of these projects have focused on integrating arts across the curriculum – both inside and outside the classroom – and making science accessible. Additional Panelists TBC	Ballroom
2–2.20pm	BREAK	
2.20–3.20pm Parallel Sessions	PANEL Reflective Practice on Diversity: What can I do from Today? Delivered by Penguin Books A panel focusing on boosting teachers' confidence and knowledge of race and racism. This is part of Penguin Books' Lit in Colour campaign. Lit in Colour supports schools to teach more books by authors of colour, aiming to increase access and make teaching more inclusive. Moderated by Penguin Books, this panel is made up of experienced educators from the Bradford District who will be sharing their experiences, techniques, successes and challenges in embedding more writers of colour into the secondary English curriculum.	Ballroom
2.20–3.20pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP Local Stories for Learners: Gendered Histories & the Working Class Packs Discussed: Behind the Brontës / Who's Cooking Now and Then? / Fighting to be Heard This is your chance to get hands-on with the new Local Stories for Learners activity packs! Explore the stories, workshop ideas with other educators, and have a go at some of the activities, facilitated by one of the practitioners who helped develop them.	Gaumont Bar

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
2.20–3.20pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP The Creative Thinkers in Your Classroom Delivered by Creative Briefs Celebrate the diverse ways learners think and learn with this dynamic workshop introducing the Creative Briefs Design Process. This framework can be applied to any subject or topic and empowers learners to build agency, confidence and motivation by taking a more active role in shaping their own learning. You'll leave the workshop with practical tools to develop a flexible and adaptive pedagogy that allows learners to explore ideas and gather their knowledge in several ways while still achieving those all-important outcomes. Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	Boiler Room
2.20–3.20pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP The Empty Chair Delivered by Alive & Kicking <i>At the end of what seems to be the longest corridor in the world an Empty Chair awaits us...</i> Alive & Kicking will introduce you to The Empty Chair, a drama tool that can be used as a launch for topics, for oracy work, to inspire writing opportunities, for cross-curricular planning, and for a host of other applications right across the Primary School range. This is a practical session in which you will use a variety of drama approaches including: - creating settings - marking moments in the history of a story - building on learners' ideas - facing fictional problems which we find in our narrative-making - devising soundscapes and landscapes And more! Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	VIP Room
3.20–3.40pm	BREAK	

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
3.40–4.40pm Parallel Sessions	PANEL Your Local Stories: Community Representation & Student Voice The idea for <i>Local Stories for Learners</i> responded to the Monuments Review in 2023 which revealed that young people did not feel represented in the history and story of their city. But how can we help them feel represented in their curriculum? This session is part panel, part workshop. In the first portion, you'll hear case studies of successful student voice initiatives working on representation and access in their settings. In the second half, you will be invited to work collaboratively to build a framework for your setting's pupil voice initiative to employ their own enquiry-led heritage research. We'll invite your learners to become the researchers finding out about the stories at the core of your local community, and task your student councils with coming up with ways these can be shared throughout the school.	Ballroom
3.40–4.40pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP From Safe Spaces to Brave Spaces: Talking about Migration in the Classroom Delivered by Bradford Schools of Sanctuary We know the curriculum is full and timetables are pressured. Yet young people are growing up in an increasingly polarised world, one often marked by division. In this workshop, Furaha and Kate will explore these challenges through the lens of migration. At a time when headlines about migration are too often negative and divisive, how can we make time and space for honest, age-appropriate conversations? This workshop reflects on the power of storytelling to build empathy and understanding. It offers space to share classroom practice, explore helpful resources, and hear directly from the voices of young people seeking sanctuary in Bradford's schools. Together we will reflect on safe ways to approach sensitive topics and explore how we can empower students to see themselves as active participants in building a more compassionate, inclusive society.	Gaumont Bar
3.40–4.40pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP The Creative Thinkers in Your Classroom Delivered by Creative Briefs Celebrate the diverse ways learners think and learn with this dynamic workshop introducing the Creative Briefs Design Process. This framework can be applied to any subject or topic and empowers learners to build agency, confidence and motivation by taking a more active role in shaping their own learning. You'll leave the workshop with practical tools to develop a flexible and adaptive pedagogy that allows learners to explore ideas and gather their knowledge in several ways while still achieving those all-important outcomes. Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	Boiler Room

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
3.40–4.40pm Parallel Sessions	WORKSHOP Beyond Bradford 2025: Embedding the Arts in your School Delivered by Arts Council England Join us for an interactive, practical session looking at how all the great work that has been happening in Bradford schools this year can be sustained and embedded well beyond 2025. We'll be looking at how the Artsmark Framework can be used by all schools (not those registered for Artsmark!) as a strategic development tool to continue developing your arts and cultural learning offer – improving pupil outcomes, attendance, staff retention and bringing joy into our classrooms for years to come! Sharing thinking and ideas, this workshop is a chance for teachers to connect activities within the Bradford Made resources with the Artsmark framework, using them as a springboard for strategic whole-school development. ACE Cultural Education Network will introduce you to the support they can provide to every school, free of charge and we'll also have Tom Howell from Bradford Artsmark Development Project talking about the support and peer sharing available for Artsmark schools in Bradford and how you can get involved. Please note: Due to limited capacity in this session, pre-booking is essential!	VIP Room
4.45–5pm	Closing Remarks	Ballroom
5–6pm	Networking and Refreshments Explore our Arts Market and find out about the cultural and creative learning offers from just some of our local partner organisations.	Ballroom



BRADFORD 2025
UK City of Culture



The Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust