



bait Quality Guidelines (December 2014)

Background

In October 2014 Mark Robinson (Critical Friend) led a session with the bait staff team and Keith Merrin (chair of bait’s consortium board) to explore what quality looks like in the context of the bait programme.

We looked at the [Manchester Metrics](#) and the [Quality Principles for Work](#) with Children and Young People (both commissioned by Arts Council England) and also discussed what additional features need to be included for bait.

Out of this discussion Mark put together draft guidelines which the staff team then tested and refined, reflecting on a number of projects delivered during 2014.

Purpose of Quality Guidelines

To help bait staff and board think about the quality of a project when it is being developed and also reflect on the quality of projects once they have completed. The guidelines may also be helpful to use in conversations with partners at both the planning and review stages of a project.

The notes should be used as guidance and this isn’t a rigid template that projects need to ‘fit into’ – it is important that an honest, realistic assessment is made of quality and so if a project is stronger in some areas than others it’s important that this is captured.

When using these guidelines it is absolutely fine to take a personal perspective of the quality of a project. This perspective should be informed by the evidence we have from participants, audiences, artists and project partners - for example from written feedback, observations, survey results, project planning and review meetings etc.

Element	Project notes inc evidence
Ambition and risk taking The participants/artists/curators/project partners challenge themselves with this work	
Concept in context It is an interesting idea, developed and presented with the right people in the right	

place at the right time	
<p>Meaning and relevance It means something to the people taking part or attending and it has something to say about the world in which we live</p>	
<p>Integrity and authenticity The work is honest and reflects the ideas of the people who are involved in making it</p>	
<p>Process Care, attention and the right amount of time is given to the process</p>	
<p>Collaborative ownership Participants and partners are involved in making decisions about how the project is delivered</p>	
<p>Production and performance values It is well produced and presented to a high standard</p>	
<p>Inspires curiosity The work sparks curiosity and conversations with the people who engage</p>	
<p>Aspiration Next step opportunities are clear for people taking part and there is an aspiration for longer term development</p>	
<p>Sustainability and replicability Elements of the project can be repeated, developed or sustained by individuals and groups in SE Northumberland</p>	