



Centrestage 'Aspire' awarded £75,249 by BBC Children in Need

We're delighted to announce that our 'Aspire' activity has been awarded a three-year grant of £75,249 to continue our delivery of Creative Learning classes to children and young people with additional support needs, helping them make friends, improve their self-esteem and teach them new skills. Awarded by BBC Children in Need, it will help make a difference to the lives of children and young people right here in Kilmarnock and surrounding areas.

Commenting on the award Centrestage, CEO, Fiona McKenzie said: "Giving children and young people with disabilities the opportunity to explore, express and develop their performing arts skills is so important, as it helps to reduce their feelings of isolation whilst improving their confidence. On behalf of everyone here at Centrestage Communities Ltd, I'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone at BBC Children in Need for making this possible. It means we're able to provide these children and young people with a number of exciting workshops and classes within a safe and welcoming environment. At the same

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time, we're also able to introduce them to new skills that will go a long way in helping them reach their full potential and break down the barriers they are so often faced with."

BBC Children in Need relies on the generosity and creativity of the thousands of supporters and fundraisers who raise millions of pounds for the charity every year. To date the UK public has raised over £1 billion for children and young people facing disadvantage across the UK.





Notes to Editors:

BBC Children in Need's vision is that every child in the UK has a safe, happy and secure childhood and the chance to reach their potential. The charity will realise this vision by supporting, promoting and publicising work that addresses the challenges that children and young people face and work that builds their skills and resilience.

BBC Children in Need is currently supporting over 2,800 projects in communities across the UK that are helping children and young people facing a range of disadvantages such as living in poverty, being disabled or ill, or experiencing distress, neglect or trauma.

BBC Children in Need awards grants at six points during the year and funds two types of grants, both of which are open to new or existing applicants. A Main Grants Programme is for grants over £10,000 per year to support projects for up to three years. Meanwhile, BBC Children in Need's Small Grants Programme supports projects for up to three years, and includes grants up to and including £10,000 per year. Both of these programmes are currently open to applications.

Further information about BBC Children in Need can be found at bbc.co.uk/Pudsey