

ANIMATION PROJECT: CTRL+CREATE

We hosted a two-day, inclusive animation workshop led by professional film animator Sophie Burrows. The project welcomed participants aged 12 and up, many of whom were engaging with MTR for the first time.

Young people participated in a series of interactive activities, which helped them discover different animation techniques, including:

- Cel animation – allowing them to draw expressive characters and bring faces to life
- Silhouette cutouts – sparking creativity through shape and movement
- Pixilation – a favourite among the group for its visually striking effects

The group experimented with principles like *squash and stretch*, and using their new skills and preferred styles, produced a short animation on the theme of *Changes*. Some participants who had prior animation experience were able to deepen their skills and broaden their creative techniques

Team-building games helped build a supportive and inclusive environment, encouraging collaboration and boosting confidence. Working in small groups, participants devised scripts, learned lines, and created short, animated films. Activities were designed to make everyone feel they could express their ideas and try new things.

The project also included a cultural food element where young people tried new cuisine and researched food traditions, e.g. the origins of Margherita pizza, veganism in Rastafarian culture and religion, and the use of Clay pots in Vietnamese cuisine.

From their feedback, it's clear the group enjoyed learning about animation techniques, especially pixilation and cell animation, and appreciated the opportunity to work collaboratively. The food component added another layer of cultural learning and sharing, with several participants recalling specific dishes and cultural facts in their feedback.

The combination of creative learning, teamwork, and cultural exploration made the animation project a memorable experience for everyone.

Take a look at young people's creative work on our Instagram account:

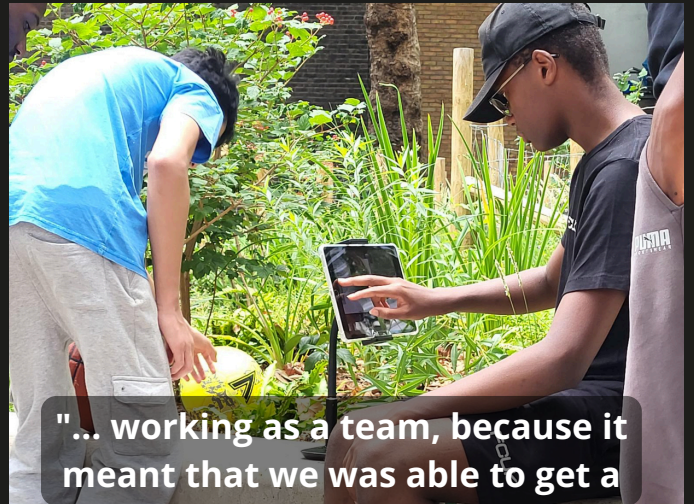
MOUTH THAT ROARS

ANIMATION PROJECT FEEDBACK

"WHAT DID YOU ENJOY & LEARN?"



"I've most enjoyed recording the films."



"... working as a team, because it meant that we was able to get a project done together."



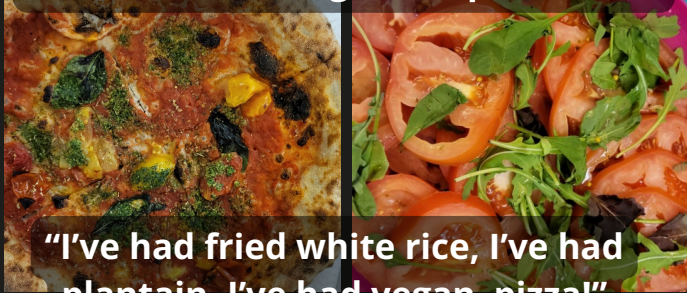
"... eating rice and peas, with the spice, it filled me very well, I didn't need to get more food."



"... it's really fun and I like the way that it moves, like, pixelly!"



"It was really fun doing the different faces and showing the expressions."



"I've had fried white rice, I've had plantain, I've had vegan pizza!"



"... doing different animation stuff and learning about different kinds of stop motion, and doing our own animations."



"I've learned a lot about Cel animation - it involves drawing which is one of my favourite things."

