

National Cultural Policy Submission

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An Artist-in-Schools Scheme

As a way of realising several of the NCP aims, government could establish a scheme to place an artist in every state school. Such an artist-in-schools scheme could involve poets, visual artists, musicians and writers.

Its benefits would be many:

It would offer first-hand models of creative thinking and cultural practices to children & the wider school community.

It would offer participating artists a basic wage and an immediate audience to test new ideas.

Those participating in the artist-in-schools scheme would not be employed as a teacher but would be seen as part of the school community, The school would select an artist from a pool of self-nominated artists in each region with incentives offered to artists for placements in remote and regional schools. The school would provide a space for the artist who would develop a cultural project or creative activity or process of interaction responsive to the school.

An artist could stay with one school a maximum of 2 years.