

Connecting to the Community Guide

Here are some groups you may wish to make contact with for your Transform:

- **Creativity Portal:** The Creativity Portal is an online collaborative environment for practitioners. It is designed to inform, inspire and encourage debate around creativity. It aims to stimulate new approaches to learning and teaching through partnerships between education and the cultural sectors, supporting Curriculum for Excellence. The Creativity Portal has been developed as a partnership between Education Scotland and Creative Scotland. The Portal brings together practitioners from both the arts and education sectors to place creativity at the heart of all learning and teaching. The Creativity Portal offers access to Scotland's many arts and cultural organisations and has links to articles and research concerned with aspects of creativity.
- **Creative Learning Networks:** most authorities have a Creative Learning Network with practitioners who are interested in creativity. Scotland's Creative Learning Networks aim to champion creativity across learning in schools and community contexts. Networks can include all those working towards the long-term benefits of children and young people. With a focus on creative learning and teaching, members can access training, resources, and opportunities to share news and good practice. To find out more about the networks, visit the about [Creative Learning Network webpage](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/NationalCreativeLearningNetworks/about/) (Link: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/NationalCreativeLearningNetworks/about/>).
- **Local Authority CLD Services and volunteering organisations** involved in work with young people, adult learning and community development.
- **University of the Third Age (U3A):** A very active group of over 50's. They are a national organisation that has an extremely busy programme of events for their members. We have found them invaluable in reaching out to a community of people who, though older, do not consider themselves "old" and may be willing to try something different and new.
- **Brass and Pipe bands:** There is a really strong tradition of brass and pipe bands in Scotland. You only need to look at the world championships to see how active this community are. They are fiercely proud of their bands and have great roots in the community. They are very useful in finding stories and connecting with people.
- **Choirs:** Most communities have a number of choirs. Once again they are a good grouping that will connect you with lots of networks. They also have a talent and a repertoire that may come in useful when making your Transform.
- **Football and other Sports Clubs:** Finding groups of young people to participate can often be hard but there are ready made groupings in plentiful supply. Even if they do not get involved they can contribute to the piece by taking part in one of the activities that create content.
- **Local shops:** Shop owners and managers of shopping malls can be very supportive when approached. We have often found them offering much more than we expected for example, use of empty shopping units to set up a short residency in a place where lots of people gather.

- Local community groups: Community associations, tenants and residents groups, pensioner's clubs could all share stories from your area.
- Youth theatres: Most communities have an amateur drama scene. We found youth groups to be flexible and keen to get involved.
- Adult amateur drama groups: adults interested in theatre who will have a range of talents that could be relevant to your Transform.
- Parents: All parents who have a child in the school are part of Parent Forum and the Parent Council are the representative group of parents. Tap into the experiences and talents of your Parent Forum. They can bring a wide variety of skills and expertise. Go to [Parentzone](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone/index.asp) (Link to <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone/index.asp>) for more information on how parents can contribute to education. Or see further information on [working with young people, children and families](#) on the Community learning and development section of the website (<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/communitylearninganddevelopment/>).
- Other: Look out for unusual opportunities to connect with people who meet lots of people during their normal week. We have connected to pub quiz masters, bell ringers, line dancers, district nurses, deep sea divers, antique dealers and wedding planners.