

IMPACT AND VALUE – STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Annotated selection of readings for school leaders and teachers

Reading by title & author	Annotated comment
<p><i>The Arts and Australian Education: Realising Potential</i></p>	<p>Ewing’s very timely report on state of the arts in Australian Schools. See 'Setting the scene': an overview of the value of the arts by examples of international research studies; 'International research over the last decade': an overview of research into the value of arts education in last ten years; 'Recent developments in arts research methodologies': recent research into the value of arts education; 'The Arts as critical pedagogy': arts education successes in Australian schools.</p>
<p><i>Critical Evidence: How the Arts Benefit Student Achievement</i></p>	<p>This is an updated, 24-page PDF summary of Critical Links that incorporates information on the more recent No Child Left Behind (NCLB) policy in the USA.</p>

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<p><i>ArtsSmarts Impact on Student Engagement: First Research Report, 2007–2009</i></p>	<p>ArtsSmarts places artists in the schools and communities and funding is provided to allow schools and communities to offer arts-related activities linked to educational outcomes. This paper develops ArtsSmarts' theory of learning centred on the concept of student engagement and synthesises the results of approximately a dozen internal research studies on student learning and program effectiveness conducted during ArtsSmarts' first eight years.</p>
<p><i>Gifts of the Muse: Reframing the Debate about the Benefits of the Arts</i></p>	<p>Gifts of the Muse reviewed a range of previous research reports on the benefits of arts education, challenging the idea of the intrinsic benefits of the arts, as simply 'art for arts sake'. Its examples provide evidence that intrinsic arts skills have many broader social applications. This report also maps the 'instrumental benefits' of the arts in learning, identified as cognitive, attitudinal, behavioural, health, social and economic.</p>

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<p><i>DICE: Drama Improves Lisbon Key Competences in Education</i></p>	<p>Drama Improves Lisbon Key Competences in Education (DICE) is an international EU-supported project, a cross-cultural research study investigating the effects of educational theatre and drama on five of the eight Lisbon Key Competences: Communication in the Mother Tongue, Learning to Learn, Interpersonal, Intercultural and Social Competences, Civic Competence, Entrepreneurship and Cultural Expression.</p>
<p><i>ImagineNation: The Case for Cultural Learning</i></p>	<p>The UK Cultural Learning Alliance conducted a broad ranging survey of existing English language data on the instrumental outcomes of cultural learning, using evidence from cohort studies with large sample sizes (typically 12,000).</p>

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<p><i>Reinvesting in Arts Education: Winning America's Future through Creative Schools</i></p>	<p>Presidents Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) has conducted an in-depth review of the current condition of arts education across the USA, surveying recent research about its documented benefits and identifying potential opportunities for advancing arts education. See summary of 'Real Visions' study on page 21 of this report.</p>
<p><i>Education and the Arts Research Overview</i></p>	<p>This overview summarises the scope and results of six education and the arts research projects commissioned by the Australia Council. The aim was to develop an Australian evidence base on the impacts of arts participation on students' learning and development.</p>

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