



CLIMATE UNITY ART PROJECT

We are delighted that The Arts Society Basingstoke has been awarded £1500 from the Patricia Fay Memorial Fund; the funding will provide an opportunity to promote awareness of and stimulate dialogue about the climate crisis facing the world. We will use the medium of an Art Installation created by children at schools in Basingstoke. This exciting project will be led by Vanessa Rolf as 'Artist in Residence'. This project will be building on a project suggested by Jayne Stillman, Hampshire County Art Adviser, who has written to all schools in Hampshire suggesting they might like to develop work on this subject.

Picture: *Stitch a Tree Project*. Participants: sixty year three pupils from Westgate School, Winchester which was displayed at City Space Gallery, Winchester Discovery Centre,

Four school communities have been invited to create patchwork quilts, alongside textile artist Vanessa Rolf; we hope the quilts will promote discussion about the value of our world and its resources. The schools will be encouraged to create their own unique artwork on this theme. The project will culminate in an exhibition at the Willis Museum from 23rd July – 7th August. The exhibition will take the message to the wider public and parents. It will also show the power of art and what can be achieved when schools work together.

Patchwork quilting repurposes cloth, giving it a second life and often increasing its perceived value due to the time and care invested in it. It is also often a community act, which creates the opportunity for conversations and builds connections. This also provides an opportunity for members of our society to help and support the work of the schools. Please contact Gill Waller if you would like to participate. We particularly need skilled hands to help stitch individual panels together into a complete artwork.

Vanessa is a Hampshire based artist with almost twenty-year's experience working with children, young people, and community groups to share skills and generate creative art works. She is a graduate and honorary fellow of the Royal College of Art and an exhibiting member of the 62 Group of Textile.

Her projects in schools can be seen on her website [Projects — vanessa rolf](https://www.vanessarolf.co.uk/projects)