

Design thinking

Workshops for schools
and colleges



Our ideas

Design is about making our world a little bit nicer to live in. Our design workshops take society as their starting point. The students will be looking at the everyday social problems they face using creative thinking as a tool to find answers to their questions. Working alongside existing educational programs we offer students a new approach, looking for new places and practices for their creativity in tomorrow's world.



Who we are

We are both graduates from Product design at the Royal College of Art in London. We have different backgrounds and experience in design, from a BA in textiles from Dublin's National College of Art and Design (Catherine) to a BA in Product Design from Arnhem (Bas). Between us we have experience in product, graphics, spatial and exhibition design. The main theme of both our work is alternative thinking about social issues.

Currently we are setting up our own business and working as social business entrepreneurs discovering new ways of putting thinking about people central to our society.

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Creative thinking

Empowering people to think more freely and to see the value of this

Creativity is not something you can only learn in Art College, it is something people have. It is a manager who deals with his department in such a way that there is a spirit among his employees. It is someone that comes up with a new system to dry the dishes or a child who builds dens at the bottom of the garden.

Creativity is everywhere. The problem is that in education today “We are educating people out of their creativity,” (Sir Ken Robinson, TED) by teaching people to follow set rules and methods without questioning them. How can we make education about building on our personal inherent creativity?

Creativity is about making connections, relations and associations that are new, not yet thought of, and having the courage to speak these ideas out loud. It is about not being afraid to make mistakes, but to learn from them and realize that something important may lie in each seemingly crazy idea.

For children our workshop is about seeing what they are capable of, making free and fearless associations and being open for things to come together in any possible way.

For teachers we bring new ideas and experiences from a design background to enhance creativity in their classroom.

Social engagement in design

This is a workshop about social issues. We look at how we can apply design thinking in areas you might not think of and to solve problems in ways you might not expect.

Design is not just about making things look good. It can be a way of thinking about how we do things and how we live and work together. A designer could come up with an idea to bring lonely people together. He could think of a way to help old people with their heavy shopping or supporting a mother who worries about the safety of her children walking to school.

Working on solutions for social issues and problems from their own life, family or situation, we ask students, through research and creative thinking to address and solve their problem. It is about finding the best way to communicate research and ideas, to have confidence in them and explore them through different approaches and media.

For student and teacher we offer new ways of looking at design showing how design thinking can be used in a much broader sense than it has been traditionally. Finding a place for design that can help and motivate today’s society.

More and more, companies and governments are realizing the value and need of design thinking to give a fresh way of looking at their problems and systems.

