

Being a Boy Identity Documentary Information Sheet

About Being a Boy

This year, Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) is running a project, for the third year, called *Being a Boy* (aub.ac.uk/being-a-boy), which uses subjects like Fashion Branding and Communication, Illustration and Photography as a way to explore what being a boy means to young men across the Dorset region.

Statistics show us that boys are much less likely than girls to achieve grades 9-5 in GCSE English and Maths. And we don't think that's fair. As a creative university, we want to hear young peoples' stories about what life is like for them.

The Workshops

Over the summer, we're inviting young men aged 12-16 to participate in a series of specialist AUB workshops at our university to explore what being a boy means in 2024, and how it influences young peoples' lives both inside and outside the classroom. Alongside learning a range of creative skills, the workshops provide an opportunity for young people to tell their story.

The Being a Boy Identity Documentary

As we're a university, we've commissioned a documentary by videographer Andy Beeson, from redManhattan Photography and Videography, who we've worked with on creating two previous Being a Boy video projects:

- Being a Boy Character Documentary 2023: aub.ac.uk/schools-hub/widening-access-to-aub/being-a-boy-student-opportunities#gallery-3809411-1
- Beneath the Surface – Being a Boy Short Film 2022: aub.ac.uk/schools-hub/widening-access-to-aub/being-a-boy-student-opportunities#gallery-3809411-3

To film and produce a documentary following the experiences of the young men during the Identity workshop on 15 May 2024. The Identity workshop is led by Keiron O'Connor, Senior Lecturer in Fashion Branding and Communication at AUB. During this workshop, the young men will explore styling and the themes of masculinity and identity, through a variety of activities including mood boards, styling mannequins that will then be modelled by current AUB undergraduate students.

There may be voluntary opportunity for AUB undergraduate students, AUB staff members and visiting staff members to be interviewed for footage to be included in the documentary on the day.

Following the workshops, our Being a Boy Project Lead, Kate, and the Being a Boy Project Coordinator will work with Andy to confirm the final edit of the documentary ready for the premiere on 28 January 2025.

The Identity participants will be invited to attend a preview of the documentary on campus before the premiere, where the documentary will be shown alongside celebration content from all seven of the 2024 Being a Boy workshops.

Involvement

By attending the Identity workshop on 15 May, participants and those involved in supporting the delivery of the workshop are providing consent to be included in the Being a Boy Documentary and consent for these images and video footage from the Identity workshop to be used by Arts University Bournemouth in promotional activity linked to the Being a Boy project.

Due to the size of the workshop space, we're unable to accommodate participants that don't want to be included in the documentary as we can't guarantee that they wouldn't be featured in the background of shots, etc.

Choosing not to participate in the Identity workshop doesn't impact a participant's eligibility or involvement in the other Being a Boy 2024 workshops that don't require image and video consent from participants.

Consent Forms

We'll be emailing a copy of the consent forms for involvement in the Identity Documentary, which you can sign and email back to us or reply to the email confirming consent – this will be saved and stored in line with the University's GDPR regulations.

We need to have received consent before the start of the workshop on 15 May 2024.

Being a Boy Celebration

The Access and Participation Team will be hosting a Being a Boy Celebration that will include the premiere screening of the documentary, Being a Boy: Identity, which follows the experiences of the young men on the Fashion Branding and Communication workshop in May 2024. As part of a wider celebration providing an opportunity to join the young men from the 2024 Being a Boy workshop series and their supporters to celebrate their creative successes and achievements, from all seven of the 2024 workshops: Identity, Character, Empower, Lift Off, Capture, Transform and Freestyle.

This event will be on 28 January 2025 at AUB's Palace Court Theatre. Save the date information will be sent home with participants at the end of each workshop, with priority bookings opening in December 2024. Further details can be found on our website:

aub.ac.uk/latest/being-a-boy-celebration

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of staff from the University, please contact me, Kate Venables, Access and Participation Operations Manager and the Being a Boy Project Lead, kvenables@aub.ac.uk or 01202 363834 or Eleanor Ball, Access and Participation Coordinator and Being a Boy Project Coordinator, wp@aub.ac.uk or 01202 363285.