# Workshop: Implementing arts activities in residential settings

Amy Veale, University of Worcester Emma Broome, University of Nottingham

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#### Introduction to the research



How can we facilitate the engagement of residents with dementia in care settings?



How should artists and care homes collaborate? What does good collaboration look like?



Discussion & final thoughts









# How do arts activities engage the individual living with dementia in a care home setting?

Aims to produce a model/ framework that;

- 1. Can describe and explain arts engagement for individuals living with dementia in care homes across a range of activities
- 2. Resonates with practitioners and care homes and is useful for practice





## Rationale

### Rationale for the project:

- Lots of outcomes focused research
- To inform best practice we need to understand engagement as a process
- Personal interest





# **Approach**

- Grounded theory
- Phase 1: The development of a tentative model of engagement using data generated through in-depth interviews with arts practitioners, arts therapists, and care staff.
- Phase 2: Observations of arts sessions in a care setting to check and develop the model further
- Start October 2018





# **Evaluating arts interventions in** residential care

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# Imagine









#### Care settings are complex environments



How do care staff influence the access and experience of people living with dementia participating in creative activity in residential care?







# How can we facilitate the engagement of residents with dementia in care settings?











#### **Causal Conditions:**

Stimulating environment

**Enabling environment** 

#### Phase:

Awareness--Adjustment--Commitment--Immersion

#### **Strategies:**

e.g. Communication, Cooperation.

Intervening conditions: Individual, Social, Cultural, Environmental

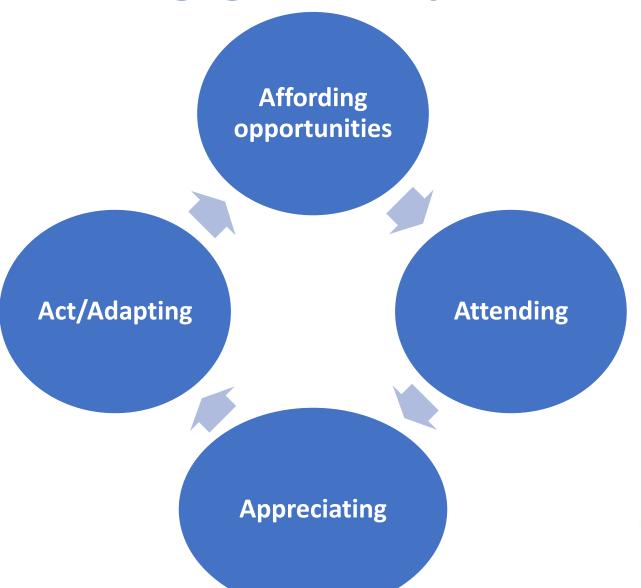
e.g. Beliefs & Perceptions. Intentions. Ability. Group composition.

#### **Consequences:**

Cultivating connections to self, to others, to place, to culture

mentia

# **Engagement cycle**











# Care personnel play an important role...

## Care personnel facilitate...

- Inclusion
  - Physically
  - Psychologically











# Other factors which influence engagement in care settings...

- Care home environment
  - Removing physical barriers (walkers/large furniture etc.)
  - Enabling attendance







# How should artists and care homes be collaborating? What does good collaboration look like?









# Integrating the arts into care settings...

### Why is collaboration important?

- Care personnel have innate knowledge of residents' aesthetic preferences, needs and abilities
- Collaboration contributes to the sustainability of arts programmes in care settings

#### How can this be facilitated?

- Briefing between practitioner and care personnel
- Culture of care from task based to holistic



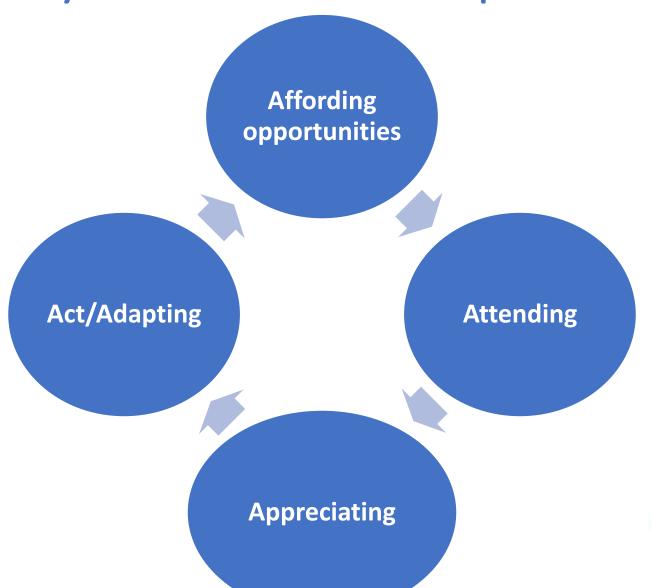
# Challenges...

- Still a focus on task based care
- Perception and reception of arts activities in care settings
- Level of involvement of staff at all levels





# Why is collaboration important?











# Discussion...

How can we facilitate the engagement of residents with dementia in care settings?

Dementia diagnosis

Accessibility

Staff availability

Type of arts activity

How should artists and care homes be collaborating? What does good collaboration look like?

Briefings

Training of staff/practitioners

Residencies

Length of project

**Funding** 





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Amy Veale <a href="mailto:a.veale@worc.ac.uk">a.veale@worc.ac.uk</a>

Emma Broome
<a href="mailto:emma.broome@nottingham.ac.uk">emma.broome@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
<a href="mailto:@nottingham.ac.uk">@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
<a href="mailto:gnatuk">@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
<a href="mailto:gnatuk">@nottingham.ac.uk<



