



Let's Talk - Collecting the Contemporary – Covid -19

Challenges & Opportunities

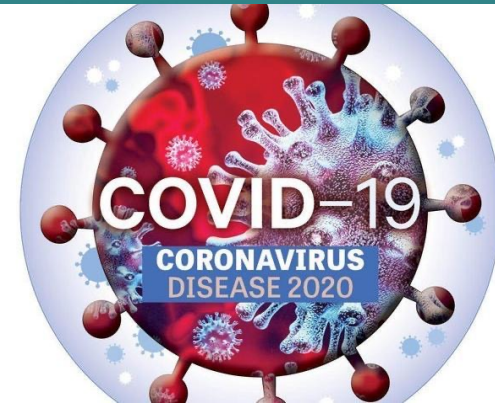


Roisin Doherty
Curator – DCSDC Museum & Heritage Service



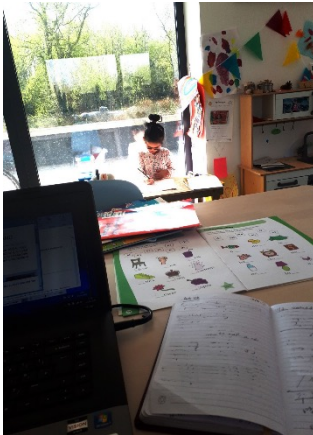
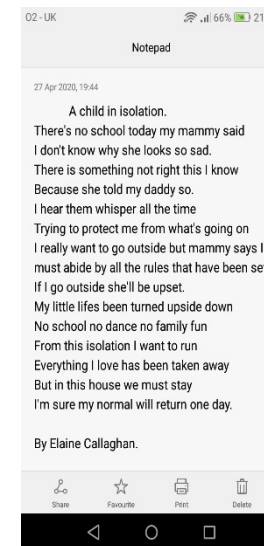
Our Project - Aims

- To collect images and stories focusing on what a typical day now looks like for local people navigating the COVID-19 crisis
- To develop a social media campaign to help raise the profile of the project & create a dialogue with the community
- To create a digital contemporary gallery which highlights the stories of the community during this time





Our Community Stories.....



Bringing it all together....



What are our Challenges?



- Resources – some staff furloughed/working from home
- Running a Contemporary Collecting project in the midst of constant daily change
- Capacity - Digital knowledge & learning
- Keeping the momentum and interest going
- ‘Rethinking’ the museum offer

Our Learning



- Have a clear vision/plan and keep it simple
- Ask your self why you want to do this?
- Don't just collect for the sake of it and its 'fashionable' be true to your values and that of the museum
- Things change so rapidly - be prepared to adapt and be flexible. Learn & respond effectively

“ Museums should reflect all aspects of the society they represent, not just past achievements. Contemporary collecting acknowledges that society is dynamic, and its evolution is continuous.”

First Citizen support – DCSDC Mayor



'A day in the life' of lockdown as Mayor. As the first citizen of the City & District it is my duty to pay tribute to the great work everyone is doing in this time of crisis. Here I am at Fountain St, Strabane Scrubs, helping to make scrubs for our healthcare workers on the frontline.

The Tower Museum are collecting your stories for a digital gallery, send us your images. Show us your typical day in these uncertain times.'

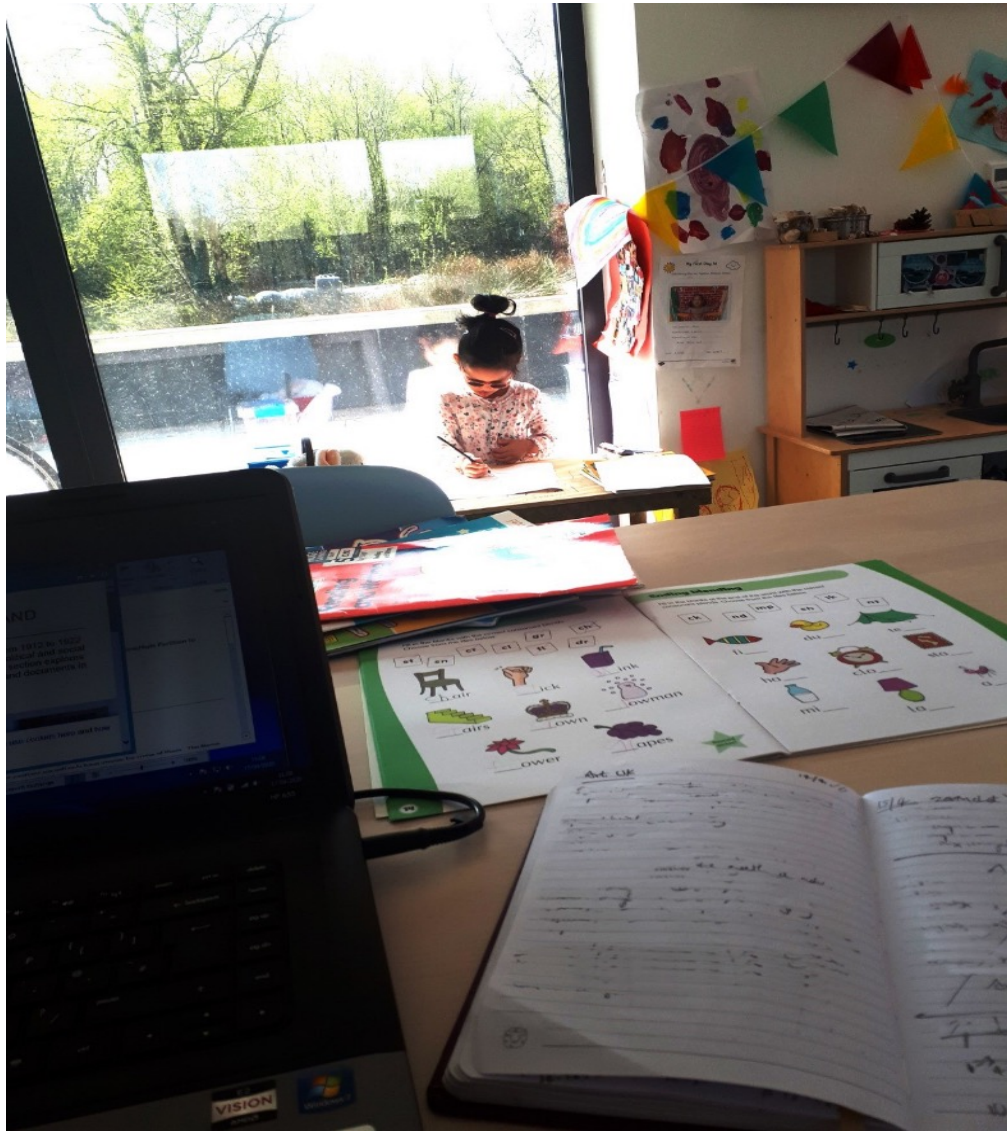
Cllr. Michaela Boyle

Tags#
#IMD2020
#Museums4Equality
@NIMuseums

Carpe Diem- Seize the day!

- We are living through a world event – which impacts our way of life. Opportunity to ‘capture’ this in the ‘here and now’ and to record it
- The role of museums is changing - we are becoming even more relevant to our communities
- Leadership - Museums can help people to understand key moments in history
- We can help build confidence - give the public access to arts/culture & heritage in a safe environment
- Change – offers the potential for transformation
- We can play our part in creating a healthy society





So life has changed dramatically, work,
school, home is for now, all one place....

*"You may not control all the events that
happen to you, but you can decide not to be
reduced by them."*

Maya Angelou

Bernadette Walsh, County Donegal