

# shape my street

a design competition for children aged 7 to 11

Welsh School of Architecture  
Cardiff University  
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## Introduction

*Shape My Street* is a free-to-enter competition that challenges children to design their own home. Normally, it is aimed at KS2 primary school classes. This year we have changed the competition so that learners can work on the assignment from home, with support from parents and guardians.



The activity is a hands-on and fun introduction to the world of architecture and design.

By taking part in the activity, children will explore what aspects of 'home' and 'street' can make successful neighbourhoods. Children can spend as little or as much time on the activity as they wish.

Winning submissions will be posted on the university website, and we hope to produce an online book of the best ideas.

An example of a pupil's individual design work from a previous year of the competition.

Children should begin by looking at the introductory slides – either on their own, or ideally with an adult. You should talk about each of the seven key topics included, and discuss the examples provided with them.

Once you have looked at the slides together, learners are ready to begin designing. It is a good idea to review their design work as it progresses, and talk about how their design is responding to the seven topics.

Children should be encouraged to draw AND make models of their design work. Different tools will enable them to develop their design work in different ways. Design work can be undertaken by hand or on the computer – or both.

If more than one child is working on the competition, after they have designed their homes, they can then explore how their homes might be brought together. They can discuss what else they might need to make a community, and what that community might be like to live in. If only one child is working on the competition, encourage them to make more than one home, so that they can still explore the design of the wider neighbourhood.

Once your designs are finished, just complete the Participant's Log and email it to us at [shapemystreet@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:shapemystreet@cardiff.ac.uk). We will be posting the best work, and hope to make a book...

**Registration** is free. To register, simply contact: [shapemystreet@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:shapemystreet@cardiff.ac.uk)

### What you will need:

- **Introductory slides.** Email the contact above for a pdf copy
- **Materials.** You can use anything. Household recycling maybe? Be creative...
- **Participant's log.** We will send this when you email. Complete and return via email.

## Activity aims:

The Shape My Street activity has the following key aims:

- To increase awareness of the importance of design.
- To stimulate discussion around community, neighbourhood and place.
- To combine science and technology learning with creative exercises.
- To raise the profile of careers in design and the creative industries.



Pupils' work is brought together to design a new community.

This design activity delivers five *Foundation Phase* areas of learning:

### **personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity**

Children will develop understanding of factors that contribute to community, neighbourhood, character and place.

### **language, literacy and communication skills**

Children will engage in discussion about their homes and neighbourhoods, and their ideas around how to improve these places.

### **mathematical development**

Children will work with recycling to build shapes and spaces, and will apply numeracy skills / develop a basic understanding of density.

### **knowledge and understanding of the world**

Children will be encouraged to think about their own neighbourhoods, but also to learn about different communities and ways of living.

### **creative development**

Children will be encouraged to explore creative concepts and share ideas for place making and community building, both individually and as a class.