



MEDIA RELEASE

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## Pre-school children mapping the city in a first for Carclew

Carclew Youth Arts will for the first time be engaging with pre-school children and educators for a photographic exploration project that captures the optimism and imaginations of developing young minds.

Throughout term 2, professional artists James Parker and Sarah-Jane Cook will work closely with 15 pre-school students from Halifax Street Children's Centre for the *Children's Map Project*, exploring and mapping Adelaide's city statues and public sculptures.

The *Reggio Emilia* philosophy underpins the *Children's Map Project*, as it facilitates natural learning through the opportunity for children to connect with their environment; explore, observe, hypothesize, question, and initiate ideas while being guided by the artists and teachers.

The four-year-old participants have already completed the exploration part of the project with Sarah where they learnt basic digital photography skills as they investigated the city through a lens.

On Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 May, the children will visit Carclew to build visual maps and guides of what they discovered using their photographs as cues.

"The children will be encouraged and supported as they reflect on their exploration, through drawing and construction using a range of visual arts techniques and mediums," said Carclew's Arts and Education Manager Leigh Mangin.

"It's exciting to be offering such a great creative experience for children of such an early age and embedding the Reggio Emilia philosophy into our programming."

The children's photography, artwork, reflections, experiences and narration will be digitally documented by artist Luku Trembath, with project outcomes exhibited at Halifax Street Children's Centre in July 2013.

"Engaging with pre-school aged children and their parents is a great step forward for Carclew and we are looking forward to undertaking more projects of this nature in the future."

For further information of the Children's Map Project please visit [www.carclew.com.au](http://www.carclew.com.au).

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