

## THE GLASS STUDIO

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### PRINT IT! BLAST IT! FUSE IT! Children's glass workshop

**Age:**

8 years +

Capacity: 6 children

**Course duration:**

Times: 10.30am-4pm

Date: to be agreed on ad hoc basis

**Cost :**

£40 per child

(includes materials)



**Aims of course:**

This course is a great way of introducing kids to the magic of kiln-formed glass. Children are used to being warned about the dangers of glass, but in this workshop they will have their eyes opened to the beauty of the material. The group will only be working with pre-prepared glass that has been kiln-polished to give it soft edges, so little fingers will be safe. Over the course of the day they will have a chance to try out screenprinting, sandblasting and fusing coloured glass.

**What students should achieve:**

By the end of the day, the children will have completed three projects. For the *Print it!* project, they will be cutting stencils in order to screenprint their designs onto a hanging glass panel. The second project - *Blast it!* - will allow them to have a go on the sandblasting gun to etch their names into a small glass dish. For the final *Fuse it!* project the children will be making an extravagant hanging glass decoration. These making sessions will be intensive but the kids will get plenty of time between projects to have a runabout in the gardens and playing field behind the studio which will help concentration levels.

**Materials and techniques covered:**

Children's natural curiosity will spark lots of questions throughout the day and being in a working studio allows much scope for learning. Apart from the specific techniques taught in each of the three projects, the group will also learn how translucent colours overlap and combine to make new colours, how gravity has an effect on warm glass, about negatives and exposing photographic film, as well as learning all about the kiln. All three of the projects are very good for improving manual dexterity, particularly fine motor movement, as well as concentration levels. The children will also benefit from seeing how the making process breaks down into different stages, and getting a taste of the life of a glass artist.