



Name: Warren Fearn

Organisation and role: Wak Studios, Creative Director

School experience: Ridgewood School

Animation and training company Wak Studios has been working with students at Ridgewood School in Doncaster for several months, delivering animation masterclasses.

Creative Director Warren Fearn says the classes were so well received by the Year 9 and 10 students that they have progressed to Level 2 in animation for the school. This involves students learning to create movies using industry standard software.

Warren says the experience has been very positive and has built supportive links with DE4L, Aim Higher and B&ESY.

He said: "The students really enjoyed working with industry experts in their field. The range of work was quite diverse in each student's individual approach. The school was so pleased with the outcome that we are running new sessions. In addition, the school receives points towards the pass rate for each student."

As a result of the work Wak has been doing at Ridgewood, they now feature on the accrediting body's website (NFCE) as an approved provider of animation training in schools, and will screen the Ridgewood students' work at Sheffield's annual Showcomotion festival for young people this summer.

Warren recommends involvement in schools to other local businesses. He said: "It's a really positive move and it's also quite rewarding in terms of helping to up-skill the next generation."

"We've been learning to work with different age groups and the experience has helped raise the profile of Wak Studios and what we can offer to education. It has benefits all round."