



# Imagination Pods

[www.ioi.london](http://www.ioi.london)

charity number 1109276



## What is an Imagination Pod?

The aim of the Imagination Pods is to give children a flavour of the ideas behind the new Institute of Imagination and bridge the gap between formal and informal learning. The Pods have been developed to help all children, regardless of age or ability, engage in constructive play in a child-led way. The Pods are mobile and can be sent to schools or centres, allowing children and adults to test and implement new tools and approaches to learning.

The Pods are suitable for all abilities and ages, except for What's in a Box? which is designed for under 5s. They are especially suitable for children with SEN.

**There are four different Pods to choose from:**



### 1 Sound Muddle

Children can make sounds using their bodies, movement and a range of different switches. They can feel and see sounds with a 'Lentil Speaker' and play with recording their voices.



### 2 Looking and Exploring

Children can explore the world around them using different technologies (some low-tech, some high-tech). They can then play with the images they make.





### 3 Making Spaces



Children can make and explore immersive environments using some very simple materials.



### 4 What's in a box?

A box developed especially for children under 5, using simple materials for exploration, play and learning.



## Sounds interesting, how much does it cost and how does it work?

Imagination Pods cost £250 plus VAT to hire. Usually, one Pod is for one class for 7 to 10 days, but there are other options. We can also provide a 'Show and Tell' session, with staff only as part of a CPD session, or if more than one class will be using the Pod.

### Pre-Pod arrival

Once you have made your booking, we will send you a Pod Pack, where you can find out more about the Pod and what you can do with it. With the Pod Pack there is also a Sensory Story which helps to introduce the topics of the Pod through a character and sensory actions. It's a great way to prepare the children for when the Imagination Pod arrives. Once you have made your booking, we will send you an invoice which is payable within 30 days and can be paid either by cheque or by BACS. Please note that if you have to cancel your Pod visit we require 48 hours notice or your invoice is still payable.



### **Bringing the Pod to you**

We will deliver the Pod to you on an agreed date and time, and our team will run an introductory workshop, using the Sensory Story, for you and your children. In this way we can support you in your initial explorations of the Pod and how it works.

### **But that's not the end...**

After the introductory workshop, we will leave the Pod with you for 7 to 10 days and will collect it on an agreed date. While the Pod is with you, you can play and extend the activities in lots of different ways. The Pod Pack offers suggestions to extend the activities but you can use them how you like.

You can use the Pod with just one class or across a range of classes. We really recommend working with one class in depth and then sharing that work with other classes: with one class you will be able to go deeper with the activities.

### **Pod pick up**

When we come to collect the Pod, we will run a review session where you and your children can share the things you did with the Pod. You can also contribute images and ideas to our Pod blog so you can share them with other schools and groups and they can build on your ideas.

## **What does the school need to provide?**

### **Space and time!**

**Space:** The Imagination Pod will need a space where it can be set up and also a space where it can be stored. Closed, it is approximately 120cm high by 80cm wide. It can be set up in the classroom or in another space such as a music room, hall or break-out space, if you have one. All of the Pods can be used outside as well – especially, Looking & Exploring and the Making Spaces Pods.

**Time:** in order to get the most from the Imagination Pod, it is a good idea to allow as much time as you can to explore it. The Pods allow opportunities for linking to the National Curriculum, especially helping with literacy skills and scientific enquiry skills.

### **Great, how do I get hold of one?**

Please contact Emma Callow: [emma.callow@ioi.london](mailto:emma.callow@ioi.london) for a booking form. Please don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions, we'd be happy to help you!



## What is the Institute of Imagination?

The Institute of Imagination charity was set up to help understand the power of imagination and realise its potential.

We're creating a new world-class cultural destination in the capital that will put children at its heart. A much-needed public space that prioritises the imagination. A space where children and their families can let their imaginations run free.

## How can you help the Institute of Imagination?

As a charity, the Institute of Imagination is funded by voluntary donations and we are very grateful for the contribution schools make when they they hire an Imagination Pod. However, the true cost of putting an Imagination Pod into a school is £1000. We have deliberately kept the hire cost low in order to enable as many schools as possible to access our content. We would be delighted if you would consider making a donation in addition to the hire fee; anything you would be able to contribute will help us to keep the programme affordable for schools who would otherwise be unable to afford an Imagination Pod.

## How can I make a donation?

You can make a donation via our Justgiving page  
[www.justgiving.com/instituteofimagination](http://www.justgiving.com/instituteofimagination)

To raise funds you might want to consider some of the following activities:

A 'use your imagination' non-uniform day

An 'imaginative' flavours cake sale

An 'imagine the future' short story competition

For more ideas or support please contact us at [hello@ioi.london](mailto:hello@ioi.london)