



The Institute of Imagination (iOi)



The Institute of Imagination (iOi) creates a space for children and young people of all backgrounds to develop their imaginations together. The goal of the iOi is to spark the imaginations of young audiences through highly interactive events, training, partnerships and research with sciences and digital technologies.

What happened through the collaboration?

The student and researcher team developed an organisational Theory of Change based on iOi's new organisational strategy. The team reviewed existing evaluation approaches to help identify a series of core impact measures that could be used alongside the organisation's new strategy.

The student and researcher team attended workshops conducted by the iOi and a presentation where the iOi shared its new strategy. The team then used a step-by-step Theory of Change guide by NPC (New Philanthropy Capital) to guide their work. To start the first stage of Theory of Change development, known as a 'situation analysis', the team collected information from several of iOi's strategic documents and organised it on a Miro board. The team then ran a workshop for members of iOi and proposed a series of further exercises to complete the situation analysis.

What is the legacy for the organisation?

A draft organisational Theory of Change that will help us begin to describe why, and test, if our way of working is effective.

What is the legacy for students and researchers involved?

We learnt how to create Theories of Change, as well as the challenges involved in updating an organisational strategy and the issues tackled by the Institute of Imagination's work.

We gained experience in facilitating workshops and designing the relevant exercises to develop the Theory of Change.



The team of students and researchers have a virtual meeting

Students and researchers

Carlos Gómez del Tronco
PhD student, Islamaphobia

Heng Hu
PhD student, Biochemical Engineering

Lydia Mardell
PhD student, Neurology

Sue Walters
Senior Lecturer, Education