FOLD, a better activity

Devised by artist-in-residence Sarah Carne

Materials required: 3 sheets of A4 photocopier paper, 3 pieces of masking tape

Materials not required: pens, pencils, drawing ability

Background:

This activity has developed out of conversations I have been having with patients, their families and staff at Great Ormond Street Hospital since April 2019. It is designed to be a prompt for you to have conversations with visitors and staff or for you to think about on your own.

I am interested in why we think some things are better than others, why watercolour paper is considered better than cheap photocopier paper, why someone who can draw well might be thought a better artist than one who can't. There are no right or wrong answers.

Activity:

Take a piece of A4 paper and make one fold in it.

Repeat the process with 2 more pieces of paper but each time fold it differently.

Ask someone to tape the 3 folded pieces to your wall. Look at them together, allow time for opinions to form and then ask someone (or yourself) the following questions.

Which one is folded best?

Why do you think that?

Which one is folded worst?

Why do you think that?

Do you both agree? Change the order in which they are taped to the wall. Does that make a difference to your opinion*?

Would you have come to the same conclusion 5 years ago? Who or what influences how we think about folded paper?

If you want to photograph your paper and share some of your responses I would love to hear from you @GOSHArts