

Cummersdale Primary School
Arts Policy

The arts are a fundamental part of our curriculum and we define the arts as Art, Craft and Design, Dance, Drama, Music, Creative Writing and Digital Arts. The arts offer children the opportunities to explore, express and communicate their feelings. Children develop their creativity, self-esteem and confidence.

Aims of the School

At Cummersdale Primary we show a strong commitment to the arts to ensure a full, rounded education for all pupils. Every child is entitled to experience a wide range of arts as part of and in addition to the curriculum. Our school aims to:

- ❖ Provide a broad, balanced and exciting arts curriculum enabling motivation, originality and imagination as well as the development of skills;
- ❖ Raise standards of the arts within the school;
- ❖ Enhance children's appreciation of different cultures through the arts;
- ❖ Provide high quality arts experiences and resources for our children;
- ❖ Develop effective links with the community which strengthen and offer diverse arts provision within school;
- ❖ Celebrate the artistic achievements of each child and
- ❖ Continue to develop the use of computing and new technologies in creative work.

Objectives

Our objectives in the teaching of Art, Craft and Design, Dance, Drama, Music, Creative Writing and Digital Arts are to:

- ❖ Enable children to record from first-hand experience and from imagination and to select their own ideas to use in their work;
- ❖ Develop creativity and imagination through a range of complex activities;
- ❖ Improve the children's ability to control materials, tools, instruments and techniques;

- ❖ Increase critical awareness of the roles and purposes of the arts in different times and cultures;
- ❖ Develop increasing confidence in the use of visual and tactile elements and materials;
- ❖ Foster enjoyment and appreciation of artists, crafts people, designers, actors and composers/musicians etc;
- ❖ Develop the cross-curricular use of the arts in all subjects and
- ❖ Work closely with a resident artist or arts organisation throughout the school, alternating between KS1 and KS2.

Pupil Entitlement

All children regardless of gender, race, culture, background and ability have an entitlement to arts education at an appropriate and challenging level. To ensure that children experience high standards of success creative development needs to be taught with regards to children's abilities to ensure progress.

Through arts teaching all children are:

- ❖ Motivated;
- ❖ Offered a range of resources to meet their needs and
- ❖ Given diverse and creative teaching styles.

Time in the Curriculum

We provide curriculum time for teaching Art, Craft and Design, Dance, Drama, Music, Creative Writing and the Digital Arts to give pupils a broad programme. We use the arts to develop a creative approach to learning in other curriculum areas.

Additional Opportunities

We also provide a range of exciting after school clubs as well as providing a creative and enriched Arts curriculum. We provide clubs such as art club, choir, recorder club and dance clubs. Many pupils take part in LEA Music lessons and we encourage pupils to further their Arts interests in clubs out of school.

When clubs are offered every child in the appropriate key stage is eligible to attend. Where clubs are oversubscribed or limited by age alternatives will be given at a different date if possible.

Partnerships

We believe the value of partnerships with Arts organisations demonstrate excellence and raise awareness of opportunities and expectations in the Arts. The links benefit:

- ❖ Curriculum development
- ❖ Community links
- ❖ Staff development
- ❖ Children's creative achievements
- ❖ The profile of the Arts

Through effective communication and liaison we ensure effective partnerships covering a range of art forms including those of other cultures, venues and activities. Our partnerships offer a range of learning opportunities and we are always on the look out for new ones.

Management and Organisation

Our Arts co-ordinator works with staff, parents, governors and artists. The Arts co-ordinator is responsible for:

- ❖ Developing and updating schemes of work for all stages;
- ❖ Supporting teachers with cross-curricular links;
- ❖ Overseeing and developing resources;
- ❖ Monitoring and evaluating through classroom observation, planning, work scrutiny and interviewing children;
- ❖ Keeping staff up to date through staff meetings, INSET, courses in the Arts and alerting them to CPD opportunities;
- ❖ Keeping governors informed
- ❖ Providing additional and extra curricular out of hours activities;
- ❖ Working with visiting artists and partners and
- ❖ Planning for future developments through annual plans and targets.

Monitoring and Evaluating

The Arts co-ordinator monitors planning, collects evidence of work and performs work scrutiny, observes teaching and interviews pupils. This is in line with the School Improvement Plan and School Self Evaluation Process.

Health and Safety

Any member of staff or Arts partnership involved in activities within the school complies with the Cummersdale's Health and Safety Policy. Children are expected to behave responsibly at all times and follow to instructions.