



THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
OF ST. SAVIOUR AND ST. MARY OVERIE

Creative Arts Policy

Cathedral School Creative Arts Policy

Introduction

This policy covers the aims and provision for the subjects in the creative arts. These include Art & Design, Dance, Drama and Music.

The school recognises that learners are creative beings prior to their arrival at school and continue to have creative experiences outside of school hours. We feel that these arts subjects provide opportunities to learn specific skills within the subject lessons, but also have a more wide reaching impact on their knowledge and understanding of themselves, the world and their learning in other subjects.

Article 29 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that "education must develop very child's personality, talents and abilities to the full...as well as respect for their...own and other cultures..." Article 31 states that "Every child has the right to...join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities." We recognise that our provision is at the heart of ensuring our learners enjoy these Rights.

Aims and objectives.

To foster awareness and enthusiasm of the arts and to promote a positive attitude towards them.

To ensure learners benefit from their right to a wide range of artistic activities whilst developing their creative talents and abilities.

To build on and develop the child's experience and understanding of the multi-media, multi-sensory world we live in.

To develop the use of creativity as a general learning tool by providing a broad creative arts curriculum allows a variety of experiences.

To ensure accessibility and a sense of achievement to all areas for all learners.

Provision

Planning

Each subject has a subject development plan and scheme of work written by a subject specialist for Cathedral School. These are reviewed each term by the staff and feedback is given to the Subject Leader. The Subject Leader also reviews the policy and scheme of work bi-annually.

In KS1: 1 hour music, 1 hour art & design, 45 minutes dance, 30 minutes drama every week.

In KS2: 1 hour music, 1 hour art & design, 45 minutes dance (as part of a modular scheme), 30 minutes drama every week. This may be integrated into English work or be part of another curriculum area.

Delivery

Schemes of work are translated into plans covering each half term and enhanced through the use of arts practitioners as visitors to the school and on trips.

Cross-curricular links will be made where appropriate.

Subject Subject Leaders liaise with class teachers to ensure provision of ICT within the arts. We have a wide range of equipment (including digital cameras, a digital video camera and interactive whiteboards), which is constantly being updated.

Learners will work in groups (same and mixed ability), individually, as a whole class and a whole school and across the key stages.

Assessment

The Arts are assessed by:

The use of assessment packs for the foundation subjects including Art, Design and Technology, Dance and Music. Drama is often used as an aspect of a topic and is often taught through cross curricular links examples are the use of drama in Literacy or History and is assessed as part of these subjects.

Through display / report writing / shows and assemblies – for the learners.

Through moderation / portfolios / monitoring by Subject Leader – for staff and adults.

Gathering learners's views.

Whole School Evaluation of effective provision by Subject Leaders, Senior Leadership Team, identified Subject Governors, and external moderation and validation through Arts Mark (ArtsMark Gold acquired again Summer 2012)

Extra curricular

We feel that, in order to deliver and encourage creative experience, extra-curricular activities need to be provided. The enthusiasm, talent, individual skills and commitment of the child, teacher, practitioner or organisation determine which clubs and experiences we offer. Music tuition is available to learners on Mondays after school at the Borough Music School held in Cathedral school.

Outside organisations

We feel that outside agencies provide fresh expertise and skills and we have had very positive feedback from practitioners that we have worked with.

Some examples of activities in the last 3 years are: opening and using the Art House for the creative Arts, a visit from a music school in India, drama groups (including the touring production of the National Theatre's Shakespeare production every year), singing regularly in Southwark Cathedral as part of school services once a half term and working with well known authors such as Faith Ringold.

Staff training

The school is committed to identifying, developing and continuing the training needs of all the staff in the creative arts education. This is reflected in our school development plan and performance management policy. This takes the form of INSET and visiting specialists, who work alongside staff in their classes.

Resources

The school is committed to providing high quality resources, which support the delivery of the creative arts.

Every class has access to the Art House for teaching Art

In each class there is an art area and basic equipment. Extra resources are available in the garage of the Art House.

Musical instruments are stored centrally. There is also a set of 15 African drums that are used weekly . There is a piano in the hall and in Nursery. There is a class set of ocarinas

Dance schemes are available in the PE cupboard.

Drama equipment is with the literacy resources in class 4.

Provision is made in the budget for providing resources for specialised topics and projects.

Health and safety

Care is taken at all times to ensure learners are taught how to use and store tools and equipment safely. Risk Assessments are completed by class teachers as appropriate under guidance from the appropriate Subject Leader.

Equal Opportunities and Entitlement

In accordance with our equal opportunities policy, all learners at Cathedral School regardless of ethnic background, gender or SEN are given full access to the arts curriculum. We recognise the special role the creative arts have to play in giving each child a vehicle for profound expression and communication.