

St George's C of E Primary School Arts Policy

In St. George's we are committed to developing children's creativity and imagination through providing opportunities for all pupils within visual art, music, drama, dance, creative writing and across all aspects of the curriculum. The arts are an important part of a broad and balanced education for every child. They provide a unique and important way of communicating, seeing and responding to the world. Our children are less inclined to have these experiences away from school, so it is important that they have the opportunity within school.

"Arts and culture strengthen communities, bringing people together and removing social barriers. Involving young people in the arts increases their academic performance, encourages creativity, and supports talent early on.

So it's important that everyone can experience and take part in arts and cultural activities, whatever their social or economic background."

The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP- Department for Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Education,

We actively work to provide an environment that will enable our children to reach their potential within and through the arts. To do this we take account of the emotional and physical environment realising that the attitudes of adults working with the children is as important as the space and resources with which they are working. As well as direct teaching, children are given the opportunities to visit galleries, experience visiting artists, dancers and performances and see live theatre. Their work is celebrated through appraisal by peers, teachers, staff and parents as well as the wider community.

What "The Arts" encompasses

Within the National Curriculum, "the arts" include art and design, music, dance and drama. Music and Art and Design are recognised as foundation subjects with their own curriculum and we have a separate policy for Music. Dance is part of the PE curriculum and is a requirement until the end of Key Stage 2. Drama is taught through many of the curriculum areas now that it is not a specified aspect of the Literacy curriculum.

Aims

At St George's Primary School we aim to provide all pupils with:

- The opportunity to participate in and experience a broad and balanced range of art activities
- The opportunity to develop a progressive range of skills and vocabulary relating to specific art forms
- A range of art activities that develop their emotional resilience, social skills, confidence and self-esteem
- The opportunity to creatively express themselves in and through all art forms
- Art activities that access other areas of the curriculum and different cultures and times
- The opportunity to creatively express themselves in and through all art forms
- Opportunities to foster and develop individual interests in the arts

Curriculum Provision

Our curriculum reflects the importance we place on the arts at St. George's Primary School. All classes have timetabled sessions to meet and exceed the requirements of the National Curriculum. In addition, we ensure an element of arts teaching is included in other curriculum areas, wherever possible. Pupils have a need for a variety of teaching styles and teachers are aware of this in planning their lessons and in catering for their needs.

Extra-curricular Arts Activities

We have visiting artists coming into school to work with classes on different topics and art forms. We attend our local theatre to experience live performances in order to enhance the children's skills for creative writing, speech and discussion. The Foundation Stage hold craft workshops where the parents are invited into the classroom.

Out of school hours activities

We offer a range of arts clubs that are available to all pupils. Clubs include street dance, recorder, choir, musical theatre and craft club.

Partnerships and Visits

We are committed to working in sustained partnership with local arts education organisations. We are committed to providing a range of

enrichment activities for our children through visiting artists or off-site art visits.

Planning, assessment evaluation and progression

The arts are planned by following our curriculum plan and take account of the progressive strands within the National Curriculum. The class teachers are then able to monitor progression across the year groups and address any areas or resources that need further development. Lessons and children's work are evaluated by pupils and staff, and on-going teacher assessments are made and reported back to parents in the yearly reports. Individual arts policies are evaluated and reviewed by the coordinator, staff and Governors.

Staff development

The importance of staff training both to keep abreast of current thinking and to enhance personal knowledge is recognised and is facilitated whenever possible. The expertise of staff within school is also drawn upon to support other colleagues.

Equal opportunities and Special Educational Needs

We provide arts opportunities for all our children, regardless of gender, race, disability or ability to pay (in the case of external visits and visitors). The arts may be used to develop a child's learning in any area of the curriculum, particularly for those with Special Educational Needs, including Gifted and Talented children.

Facilities and Resources

Each class teacher is responsible for ordering the resources needed to meet the areas of the curriculum each year. We have a sound system with speakers and microphones for our school productions and have recently purchased a stage. In addition, we focus on the opportunities to recycle materials and use them within our work.

We use the skills and experience of local artists and they regularly visit school to work with different classes.