

St George's School, Bourton

Overarching Arts Policy

At St George's Primary School we value the arts because:

- The arts in our school contribute to the development of the whole child emotionally, aesthetically, spiritually, intellectually and socially. It creates in children a sense of enjoyment and a sense of purpose.
- They provide children with a unique way of perceiving themselves and the world, and creates an environment where a child is able to grow, develop, succeed and feel a sense of pride in their achievements.
- We believe the Arts to encompass a wide range of subject areas and disciplines including Music, Dance, Drama, Art and Design.

Aims of the arts	Objectives
Engaging with a variety of artforms to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a minimum of 15% of curriculum time on high quality arts experiences including dance, music, drama and art and design • provide regular opportunities for cross-curricular work in the arts. • ensure our curriculum celebrates diversity. • provide opportunities to develop creativity, self-esteem, confidence and maturity through participation in the arts • ensure that teachers have access (a minimum of 2 CPD sessions per year) to regular continuing professional development that refreshes their own creativity and keeps them up to date with developments in the arts
Developing the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgments about artworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give children opportunities to create, present, reflect on and evaluate their own work as well as that of their peers and professional artists through well considered units of work for each arts subject
Encouraging children to work independently and in teams, to share arts experiences and present artworks to others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give all children an opportunity to exhibit work or take part in a performance at least once a year • give children the opportunity to take part in an after school art activity • signpost children to arts activities in the community • present art work to parents and the community
Developing an understanding of the role of the arts in society, including as a career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer all children opportunities to work alongside professional artists
Increase active and independent involvement in cultural opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take children to see work exhibited and performed by professional artists /actors / musicians / dancers

Aims of the School

These aims are intended for all children in school. How they are implemented will be dependent upon the age and ability of the children:

- To promote enjoyment in the arts through creating art and seeing themselves as artists.
- Nurture and encourage the natural abilities that every child possesses in the arts.
- To provide children with the experience of musical / dramatic / dance performances by professional artists.
- To provide children with opportunities to express themselves socially and emotionally through arts experiences.
- To give children opportunities to display work or perform for other people.
- To give all pupils the opportunity to take part in at least one extracurricular arts activity.
- To use a variety of materials, tools processes and techniques, including ICT, safely, experimentally and with increasing confidence, technical control and skill.
- To develop the ability to observe, investigate, respond to and record the world around them through a variety of art forms.
- To develop creative imagination, visual perception, awareness and visual literacy to enable them to express their ideas and feelings and to evaluate their own and others' work.
- To develop an understanding of the arts from their own and other cultures and times and apply this knowledge to their own work.
- To provide opportunities to develop an understanding of the role of the arts in society including artworks of different cultures.
- To use their work and the work of established artists to provide a colourful and stimulating environment.
- To give all pupils an opportunity to observe, plan, design, complete and perform / exhibit in a range of art forms.

Aims of the Subjects of the arts

The arts are about developing children's imagination and creativity by:

- Providing opportunities to develop self esteem, confidence and maturity through participation in the arts.
- Stimulating children's creativity and imagination by providing visual, tactile and sensory experiences and developing a unique way of understanding and responding to the world.
- Developing children's understanding of each of the arts, and their ability to use this to communicate ideas, feelings and meanings.
- Providing an arts curriculum of quality, range and depth, including many opportunities for cross curricular work.
- Exploring with children ideas and meanings in the work of artists, craftspeople and musicians and dancers, and help them to learn about their different roles and about the functions of art, craft and design in their own lives and in different times and cultures.
- Helping children to learn how to make thoughtful judgments and aesthetic and practical decisions and become actively involved in shaping environments.

Teaching and Learning in the Subject

The arts curriculum is taught in a flexible way throughout the school. Within each Key Stage and class base, art, music and dance are taught both explicitly and through cross-curricular links. The arts are taught and promoted both by school staff and by visiting specialists. All arts subjects are also taught in a more holistic manner through performing arts opportunities and creative curriculum planning.

Arts teaching within the taught curriculum

Throughout the school the arts are taught both explicitly and through a creative cross curricular, thematic approach to learning.

This has been in place since 2006 and is now well embedded in the school's planning cycles.

Arts teaching outside the taught curriculum

- Whole school singing assembly takes place each week for 20 minutes.
- Weekly after school choir club (45 minutes), with chance to perform during Friday's achievement assemblies and at various school, community & locality events.
- Peripatetic music lessons for individual children.
- Weekly recorder club (15 minutes).
- After school craft club encompassing DT, art and craft (45 minutes).
- Opportunities to take part in school, community, local and national competitions and exhibitions.
- Visits from artists, musicians and dance groups to perform for or work with the children.

Meeting the needs of all pupils:

Pupils will obtain maximum benefit from the arts if:

- Work is challenging, yet achievable.
- Teachers' expectations are appropriate.
- Pupils' successes are celebrated.
- Teachers and pupils enjoy the work

Assessment

Class teachers will plan appropriate work for their children in consultation with the schools medium term plans for each of the arts.

Every child will be assessed to ensure continuity, progression and achievement. This will be done through self evaluation, peer evaluation and teacher observation.

Formative assessment will be ongoing via observations and dialogue with the children and next steps will be negotiated and agreed.

A summative assessment of each child's progress in art and design over the year will be provided to parents in end of year reports.

Children's achievement will be matched against the National Curriculum level descriptors, as part of our ongoing assessment of foundation subjects.

Resources and Storage

We have a wide range of resources to support the teaching of art and design across the school. All our classrooms have a range of basic resources. Specialist resources and equipment are centrally stored and should be returned after use. The library contains books on the arts and a range of artists.

Equipment at our school includes:

- Hall with stage and sound system
- ICT suite with installed music and art software
- Digital cameras in every classroom
- Video cameras with animation software
- A range of digital audio equipment
- A range of audio-visual software
- Digital photo frame
- A wide range of musical instruments

Inclusion (including disability)

At our school we teach all of the arts to all children, whatever their ability. We believe that all children should have equal access to the curriculum providing a broad and balanced education. We aim to provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to achieve high standard in their work and make progress throughout the school. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. When progress falls outside the expected range the children may have special educational needs. If this is the case, the class teacher will take additional or different action to enable the children to learn more effectively. This may involve the use of a classroom assistant or another adult, or more appropriate and differentiated materials and resources to meet children's needs.

Equality and Entitlement

As part of our educational inclusion strategy, we are committed to preparing our pupils for life in a multicultural society. We promote equality of opportunity and good relations between members of different gender, racial, disability, cultural and religious groups and communities, eliminating unlawful discrimination. Teachers should ensure that pupils are presented with work of artists, craft workers and musicians and dance / drama groups that reflect these differing groups. Children should have the opportunity to have their own work displayed in school. Material may be selected from earlier or later stages in school's scheme of work when necessary, to enable individual pupils to progress and show achievement.

Health and Safety

We will provide a well-organised and safe environment for pupils to work in. There will be sufficient space for practical work. Pupils are closely supervised at all times when using various tools. They are taught to use items of protective clothing as appropriate and be encouraged to develop safe and tidy work practices. Pupils must be taught how to use the tools safely at all times. Dance will be monitored and children shown how to move with safety and care. Pupils are also taught to recognise hazards and take appropriate action.

This policy was adopted by governors on: 26th January 2011

It is due for review on.....

Signed.....date.....