

Arts Policy for Tranmere Park Primary School

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Date written: February 2018

Ethos

At Tranmere Park Primary we believe that the Arts play an important role in the education of our pupils as it encourages the exploration of values, fosters imagination and creativity, develops practical and perceptual skills and promotes aesthetic development.

The Arts encompass art and design, music, drama, literature (poetry, script writing etc.), dance and multi-media activities (use of digital photography, graphical design software, film making).

Aims

- To produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- To become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
- To evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design
- To know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.
- To provide an arts rich environment which allows children to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings
- To encourage children to work independently and co-operatively, to share arts experiences and to present artworks to others
- To develop an understanding of the role of the arts in society, including as a career
- To increase active and independent participation in cultural opportunities

What we teach

To ensure the Arts curriculum provides quality, range and depth, the objectives will be implemented through the action plans for the individual arts subjects. Schemes of work are related to the IPC Curriculum and within these plans are opportunities for cross-curricular work, for example; drama in literacy, dance in PE or music and for learning about different cultures. In addition to the IPC we use the Charanga scheme as a guide for planning, teaching, learning and assessment to supplement the music objectives covered in the IPC, relating topics on a 2 year cycle to match with the appropriate IPC topic. Our emphasis is on making the teaching of music cross-curricular wherever possible. The scheme is based on the QCA units and provides coverage and progression of the new National Curriculum.

All staff will review current plans and identify opportunities in the coming year for enhancing skills in the Arts. The school is committed to providing training in all the Arts subjects where appropriate.

How we teach it

To deliver the programmes of study, time is allocated within the Curriculum with additional time given for whole school activities such as 'Arts Week', special performances by visiting artists, school productions, workshops, visits to exhibitions and galleries, and cross-curricular projects. Children's work is celebrated through display, performance in assembly to the whole school and parents, and school productions. Out of hours opportunities include, Singing Groups, Drama Club and peripatetic lessons. In addition, in partnership with our local music hub LMEP, Tranmere leads The Groove Generation Project, working with a group of seven other schools in the Aireborough Cluster, providing after school music provision in drumming, percussion, song writing skills and music tech. It addresses Speaking and Listening, SEAL and PSHE objectives. It also provides opportunities for musically G&T and additional opportunities for SEN children to succeed outside the core curriculum.

Drama and dance are taught through cross curricular lessons - ie PE, literacy, through end of term or end of year productions, which are to an exceptionally high standard and an after school dance club in spring and summer terms. We have a partnership with Guiseley Secondary school which enables pupils to participate in a G&T D&T day there.

Music is timetabled to be taught weekly, in a 20min-50min session. A break-down of planning is available online.

In upper KS2 team teaching enables all pupils across years 5 and 6 to have a specialist music teacher to lead music activities and lessons.

How we assess the Arts

Assessment for the Arts is part of the school's overall assessment policy. Art is assessed through one set task which is given to all children in term one. In term two, the children are taught the skills required to improve and develop their work. In term three the children repeat the original exercise using their newfound knowledge and skills. Evidence of the clear progression that the children make is kept in art sketch books which stay with the children throughout their time at school. For music, an electronic data capture- for example Garageband files, video clip, iMovie or Voice Record is used to record the class at the start of a unit and then repeated at the end of the unit to show progress in the musical skills. In music and art, teachers may note the progress made by children against the learning objectives. A summative assessment of progress is made for each child and forms part of the child's end of year report to parents. This information is passed on to the next teacher at the end of each academic year.

How we monitor the arts

There is an ongoing cycle of subject monitoring at Tranmere Park Primary. The Subject Leader will be allocated a block of time during the academic year to monitor work against an agreed criteria from SLT, to organise a theme week for the whole school to address an objective which has been highlighted in the subject evaluation form and finally organise a challenge day for children who show a particular aptitude or interest in Art. Results of monitoring will inform the Subject Leader's action plan.

The Subject Leader manages the long term plan for the Arts alongside the curriculum manager. In addition, the Subject Leader reports to the assessment manager at the end of the academic year referring to each class's art and music end of year outcomes.

Resources

Each Arts subject has access to a wide range of resources, specialist materials and equipment. Staff and parent helpers are happy to share their skills and to learn new ones. The Music room is a central storage point for all music resources (e.g. books, CDs, instruments). Charanga is an online scheme of work that all teaching staff can access with a login. This provides the planning and resources needed for the teaching of music. The Garageband app is on all the iPads. Each year has software for use on the Interactive whiteboard and there are further music tech software packages. Art resources are stored in the KS2 shared area.

Health & Safety

The school follows the guidelines of the "Be Safe" booklet for all general health and safety issues connected to the Arts. This is kept in the staffroom. In addition, staff should refer to the Health & Safety policy. All activities, both on and off site are planned and delivered with due regard to health and safety. Any visits involving children leaving the school site are subject to a risk assessment. We aim to make the safe use of equipment a key feature where the pupils are aware of how to use potentially challenging equipment and tools with a high regard for safety and care. All staff supervising Art and Music activities should be aware of the relevant risk assessments for the area being covered. These are managed centrally in the school office.

- Instruments carried carefully and sensibly, supervised by an adult.
- Art equipment should be carried and used sensibly, supervised by an adult.
- Keyboards to be carried by 2 pupils at a time

Inclusion

At Tranmere Park Primary all pupils regardless of gender, race, religion, ability or disability will have the opportunity to experience a relevant and appropriate Arts curriculum. In recognition of the positive effects of The Arts on children with SEN, opportunities are provided through the Groove Generation Project for children to have access to extra music making opportunities.

Safeguarding

Tranmere Park is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Please refer to the following additional policies to supplement this policy; P.E. Single Equality Policy, P.S.H.E. Policy, SEN and Inclusion Policy, RE Policy.