



# **Creative Arts Policy**

Summer 2013

We believe that the arts are a fundamental part of the curriculum and define the arts as music, dance, drama, art and literature. We believe that the arts offer opportunities for the children to explore, express and communicate their feelings whilst gaining experiences of the wider world. Through experiencing the arts, children develop their creativity, self-esteem and confidence.

*“Around here ... we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things, because we're curious ... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.”*

*WALT DISNEY*

## AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

**At Denbigh Primary we show a strong commitment to the arts to ensure a full and rounded education for all pupils. There is an entitlement to a wide range of arts experiences for every pupil as part of and in addition to the curriculum. Our school aims:**

- To provide a broad, balanced and exciting arts curriculum, which enables motivation, originality and imagination as well as development of skills
- To raise the standards of arts education in school
- To enhance children's appreciation of different cultures through the arts
- To provide high quality arts experiences and resources for our children
- To develop effective links with the community which strengthen and offer diverse arts provision within school
- To celebrate the artistic achievements of each child
- To continue to develop the use of ICT and new technologies in creative work

## OBJECTIVES

**The above aims will be met through the provision of opportunities for all children:**

- To continue to develop links with artists and organisations and broaden interests by being introduced to different arts experiences
- To provide a range of materials and skills with which to engage children
- To be able to develop cross-curricular work .g. using performance as a stimulus for writing
- To perform to a wider audience and in different venues
- To perform and celebrate creative thought and outcome and value every child's contribution to the arts as important
- To use ICT technology to explore and extend creative thought

## **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
- Given diverse and creative teaching styles

Sometimes the number of children who can participate in external events is restricted but we always offer the activity to **every** child. Selection for these events is always fair.

## **TIME IN THE CURRICULUM**

At Denbigh Primary we provide curriculum time for teaching in art, design, dance, music and drama to give all pupils a broad programme. We use the arts to develop a creative approach to learning in other curriculum areas and ICT is used to enhance the delivery of the arts curriculum.

### **Foundation Stage**

In the Foundation Stage the Arts are mainly incorporated into Expressive Arts and Design although all areas are cross curricular.

- Weekly celebration assemblies
- Christmas Production – combination of all art forms
- Achievement Assemblies
- Speech and Language activities throughout the day across the curriculum.

### **Key Stage One**

- Weekly praise assemblies
- Christmas Production – combination of all Arts forms
- Art is taught weekly or blocked into longer sessions
- Ongoing music units of work – these are half termly and units are repeated and developed in Year 2 with a different focus in order to build on musical skills
- Two units of dance per year group
- Drama is taught primarily as part of literacy with extra drama-based activities incorporated into other areas of the curriculum
- Creative Arts weeks/days
- Creative use of ICT
- Visiting theatre groups/artists/musicians

### **Key Stage Two**

- Weekly music celebration assemblies
- Weekly singing assemblies
- Religious assemblies/festivals involving drama, music, poetry, dance and art
- Art is taught weekly or blocked into longer sessions
- Ongoing units of work in music
- Two units of dance per year group

- Drama is taught primarily as part of literacy with extra drama-based activities incorporated into other areas of the curriculum
- Creative Arts weeks/days
- Summer Productions
- Peripatetic music teaching of a variety of string, woodwind and brass instruments
- Regular arts activities and performances for school, parents and the wider community
- Visiting theatre groups/artists/musicians
- Trips to galleries
- Creative use of ICT

## **ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

As well as providing a creative and enriched Arts curriculum, we also provide a range of exciting out of hours opportunities for children. Staff provide a range of clubs for pupils, including many that are arts-based (choir, sewing, drama, dance, art). Many pupils also take part within LEA Music Events 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 group alternatives will be given at a different date where possible.

## **CROSS CURRICULAR LINKS**

Cross-curricular links are made through careful whole school planning and liaison between subject leaders. Examples of this include the use of ICT in art and music; the use of drama and art in humanities.

In terms of PSD, involvement in the Arts helps children to make choices, identify what they are good at and what they need to do to improve. Our multi-cultural work helps children to recognize and celebrate difference and diversity. Children learn the techniques of discussion when appreciating a piece of artwork or music.

Cross-curricular links between subjects and topic areas are highlighted within Medium Term Plans in all year groups.

Arts Weeks, days or events provide excellent opportunities for further links across art forms and other subjects.

## **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 looking for new ones.

- Children are able to experience these through:
- Gallery visits
- Visiting artists and musicians
- Wider Opportunities Scheme for Music
- Participating within LEA Music Service events
- Concerts with cluster schools
- Talented staff, parents and governors within the school
- Plays, Theatre company visits & Workshops
- Performing in local care homes, community centres

## **LEADERSHIP AND ORGANISATION**

Denbigh Primary has Arts subject leaders who work with staff, parents, governors and artists and who are involved with cluster meetings and networking.

The subject leaders are responsible for:

- Developing and supporting schemes of work for all stages
- Supporting teachers and subject leaders 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 and working with designated Arts governor
- Providing additional and extra curricular out of hours activities
- Working with visiting artists and other partners
- Planning for future developments through annual action plans and targets

## **MONITORING AND EVALUATING**

Each subject leader for each aspect of the Arts 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 Denbigh Primary Health and Safety Policy. Children are expected to behave responsibly at all times.