

# The Creative Arts Policy

By the term “Arts” we mean the four significant art forms of Art and Design, Dance, Drama and Music as well as creative writing, media, multimedia and other areas that give children opportunities for creativity and self-expression. By the time pupils leave Ruislip Gardens, they will have experienced a wide range of art forms.

## 1 Aims and objectives

**1.1** The Arts in Ruislip Gardens Primary School are predominantly concerned with the development of visual and tactile language and with practical skills to foster an understanding of how ideas, feelings and experiences can be expressed. Subjects incorporated in the arts increase aesthetic awareness, self-esteem, confidence and develop the imagination. These subjects will contribute in a significant way to the social, cultural, moral and spiritual life of the school.

## 1.2 Aims

1. To foster pupils’ sensitivity, understanding and enjoyment of the arts through performing, composing, listening and appraising.
2. To develop self confidence and esteem.
3. To develop skills in communicating and working with others.
4. To encourage an awareness of cultural diversity.
5. To develop strategies for planning and making appropriate choices.
6. To develop skills in recording information.
7. To provide the National Curriculum entitlement for pupils.

## 1.3 Objectives

1. To enable pupils’ to record responses to direct experiences, memory and imagination.
2. To work individually and collaboratively using a range of materials and processes.
3. To develop an ‘arts’ vocabulary.
4. To use information technology competently.
5. To develop a knowledge and understanding of Art and Design, Dance, Drama and Music.
6. For pupils to gather and use source materials to stimulate and develop ideas.

## 3 Curriculum planning

**3.1** The Arts are foundation subjects in the National Curriculum. At Ruislip Gardens we use a skills based scheme of work which ensures progression, so that there is an increasing challenge for the children as they move up through the school, whilst enabling creative cross-curricular links.

**3.2** Cross curricular links are explored, where possible, to develop a holistic approach to the teaching of the arts in the school. Schemes of work provide a structured and sequenced programme of activities which build on pupils’ previous learning experiences and achievements. Our medium-term plans for each subject, give details of skills taught each term in relation to cross curricular planning.

**3.3** Theme days and theme weeks are held periodically to celebrate national events or to promote and explore an area of the curriculum in more depth.

**3.4** Dance and Drama are taught as essential elements of the P.E. and English curriculum. These areas are covered through Creative and Physical Development and Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years. Music is weekly, Art and DT are rotated and taught each term.

#### **4 Extra curricular activities**

**4.1** In addition, the school provides several extra-curricular activities for those learners who demonstrate a particular interest or ability. These include:

- Stringed instrument lessons
- Keyboard lessons
- Choir for KS1 and KS2
- Art club for KS1 and KS2
- Multisport club

See Termly Club lists booklet for an extensive list of all clubs.

#### **5 Assemblies**

**5.1** Children have singing assemblies in KS1 and KS2 every week. They also take part in yearly concerts and class assemblies where they will have the opportunity to showcase their skills in Music, Dance and Drama.

#### **6 Outside agencies**

**6.1** Children have opportunities to take part in workshops lead by outside agencies and artists from the local area come in and share experiences with them.

The school has links with a number of outside agencies to promote and enhance the delivery of the Arts. These include:

- Library services
- Museum Services
- Visiting theatre and music groups.
- Specialist dance and drama coaches
- Hillingdon Arts Association
- Local artists and groups

#### **7 Promoting SMSC**

**7.1** Through the Arts curriculum taught in our school, children will have opportunities for:

- Spiritual development through exploring ideas, feelings and meanings and to make sense of them in a personal way in their own creative work, and to make connections with others, as represented in works of art, craft and design.
- Moral developments through helping pupils identify and discuss how artists, craftspeople and designers represent moral issues in their work.
- Social development through helping pupils to learn to value different ideas and contributions and develop respect for the ideas and opinions of others, and to work on collaborative projects.

- Cultural development through helping pupils to recognise how images and artefacts can have an influence on the way people think and feel, and to understand the ideas, beliefs and values behind their making.

## **8 Record keeping and Assessment**

**8.1** As in all other areas of the curriculum, assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. Class teachers keep records of work carried out by pupils and photographs are a useful tool to keep as a reminder of pupils achievements.

**8.2** Progress against the key objectives are assessed using a combination of formative and summative assessments and these provide information for end of years reports and shape future planning to ensure continuity.

## **9 Healthy and Safety**

**9.1** At all times, children will be taught how to care for and handle equipment and media safely, with respect and in line with the subject risk assessments.

**9.2** When working with tools, equipment and materials, in practical and in different environments, including those that are unfamiliar, pupils will be taught:

- about hazards, risks and risk control
- to recognise hazards, assess consequent risks and take steps to control the risks to themselves and others
- to use information to assess the immediate and cumulative risks
- to manage their environment to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others
- to explain the steps they take to control risk

**9.3** Staff should be aware of the County guidance on Health and Safety, Manufacturer's advise on the products they use and other information as circulated.