



## **ALLENDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **POLICY FOR THE ARTS**

At Allendale we value learning and teaching the Arts because we believe that a range of life skills can be acquired which will be of benefit to all pupils.

These skills include;

- Communication and presentation; the Arts stimulate discussion and encourage pupils to express and share their thoughts and ideas
- Creativity and critical thinking; The Arts encourage pupils to keep an open mind, take risks and recognise that there is no one right answer
- Questioning and challenging assumptions; The Arts often provide different viewpoints that question hidden values and challenge perceptions
- Working collaboratively; many arts events could not take place without pupils developing leadership skills, supporting each other and taking personal responsibility for their role
- Working to deadlines; when performing or presenting their artwork, pupils have to reach an end point at an agreed time

The Arts can enrich all other areas of the curriculum by adding a practical approach to learning. Children become aesthetically aware of their surroundings and can be involved in how they look. They learn to make informed judgements and practical decisions. They learn how the Arts have influenced the way in which people live and how they communicate different periods of history and is also a means of learning about different cultures.

The core aims of our Arts Policy are;

- To provide a range of high quality experiences for all pupils
- To provide the opportunity to engage with a variety of art forms, giving all pupils the chance to explore different thoughts and feelings and develop their own interests.
- To help pupils to develop artistic skills, knowledge and understanding so they can make and respond to artworks and art forms
- To increase pupils' cultural understanding by exploring and challenging values and meanings
- To develop pupils' social skills, sensitivity, sense of belonging and sense of responsibility through sharing arts experiences
- To encourage pupils to express opinions and make choices based on their experiences
- To provide opportunities for pupils to explore all arts forms and participate in Arts Awards

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **School Staff**

- To promote a confident, positive attitude towards the teaching of the Arts, making it an enjoyable experience
- To provide opportunities for the pupils to observe, use first-hand experience and have the confidence to create their own ideas
- To develop pupils' ability by using a range of materials, tools, and techniques within lessons
- To foster an enjoyment and appreciation of the Arts, looking at both their own work and the work of others
- To increase the pupils' knowledge of artists, musicians, craftspeople and designers who have influenced work from a range of cultures and time periods
- To help pupils gain a critical awareness of art's place within different periods and cultures

### **Governors**

- To undertake an art visit in line with the school's rolling programme of focused Governor visits.
- To be understanding and supportive of our aims in learning and teaching The Arts and review the Arts Policy as part of our cycle of policy review.

### **Pupils**

- To develop an enjoyment of creative arts and see themselves as artists.
- To be able to express their own ideas, through art and give meaning to the world around them.
- To be able to use a range of materials, tools and techniques at a comfortable level for them.
- To be able to be critical in evaluating their own and other people's work, giving an opinion on what they think might improve the piece of work.

### **Parents and Carers**

- To be understanding and supportive of our aims in learning and teaching the Arts.
- To support the children with any art that they may undertake at home.
- To help develop a child's talent for art where necessary and value it as a subject.
- To encourage and praise their child's efforts.
- To come into school during Open Afternoons and look at the art work that the children have created.

## **Implementation of The Arts Policy**

Pupils experience the Arts through classroom teaching, whole school initiatives and pupils own interests. We enhance the range of experience offered to the pupils and staff through the use of Arts experts and make use of the services of parents and other local artists from the community. We also endeavor to hold an 'Arts Week' every year to celebrate The Arts. Displaying the children's work is of great importance, not only to create an inviting and engaging learning environment but to encourage the children to value their own and others' work and see that we value it also.

## Organisation:

### KS1-KS2

- The Arts can be taught through stand alone curriculum lessons or integrated into topic work and lead by the children's class teachers. Opportunities are used to encourage children to use their creative knowledge over all areas. The Arts can help provide meaning to all other subjects within the curriculum. The Arts provide opportunities to develop fine-motor skills, observational skills, concentration and team work. Art can be linked to all other areas and gives a practical approach to learning.

### Reception

- Pupils in Reception will be provided with a wide range of experiences through the Foundation Stage Curriculum as well as specific arts projects and themes as mentioned above.

In addition, whole school art projects are undertaken where each class takes an aspect of a theme and the school stages art exhibitions either within school or the local community.

### **Inclusion (please refer also to the School's Inclusion Policy)**

Inclusion is about every child having educational needs that are special and the school meeting these diverse needs in order to ensure the active participation and progress of all pupils in their learning. Successful inclusive provision at Allendale Primary School is seen as the responsibility of the whole school community, permeating all aspects of school life and applicable to all our pupils. It is in this way that we will turn the rhetoric into reality. Inclusive practice in Art should enable all children to achieve their best possible standard; whatever their ability, and irrespective of gender, ethnic, social or cultural background, home language or any other aspect that could affect their participation in, or progress in their learning.

### **Monitoring and Review**

Relevant co-ordinators and governors will monitor the teaching and provision of The Arts to ensure all pupils have the opportunity to access a wide range of experiences.

Arts Policy  
November 2016

Reviewed  
November 2020

Review date  
November 2024