



# Loughton School

## Creative Art Policy 2015

### **Vision**

*Loughton School..... Inspiring Children.*

At Loughton School we believe that the creative arts are central to the ethos and life of the school. We believe that the arts provide unique and powerful opportunities for communication, expression and creativity. We are committed to providing such opportunities through visual art, music, drama, dance, creative writing and across all aspects of the curriculum.

### **Aims**

In teaching the creative arts we aim to:

- provide a broad and balanced range of arts activities across all curriculum areas to develop an understanding and appreciation of the creative arts.
- develop imagination and creativity across all art forms.
- offer opportunities to experience and appreciate the arts from different cultures and traditions and different times.
- enable children to develop self-esteem through learning as individuals, in groups or in a class, as well as taking part in exhibitions and performances.
- encourage the natural abilities that enable children to develop their full potential.
- acquire and develop relevant skills and knowledge.
- develop the use of ICT and new technologies in creative work.
- celebrate artistic achievement.

### **Curriculum provision**

Our creative curriculum approach reflects the importance we place on the arts. Wherever possible links are made between subjects e.g. English, History, RE, ICT and DT. A wide variety of strategies are used to teach the arts, including practical work, visits to and from creative practitioners and via themed days or weeks e.g. Hindu day, Japanese Week and Take One Picture week. Opportunities are constantly sought to celebrate artistic achievements.

**Extra-Curricular Provision** A range of clubs are available to pupils and include for example ballroom dancing and choir.

**Art** is taught for one lesson per week by dedicated art teachers in accordance with the art policy (see art policy stored on the schools 's' drive)

**PE** is taught for two lessons per week. The majority of lessons are taught by PE specialists and class teachers and include creative and dramatic dance. E.g. Year 3 robot dance, Year 4 WW2 jive dance, Year 5 Theseus and the Minotaur, Year 6 West Side Story dance. Sports Leaders support and encourage the younger children in their sporting endeavours.

**Creative writing** is taught within English lessons and all children across the school explore and create narrative writing, play scripts and poetry, linked to their termly theme.

Children write, collate and edit their own newsletter which is distributed to each class throughout the year.

**Music** is taught by a specialist music teacher, class teachers and visiting peripatetic musicians in weekly timetabled lessons. E.g. Year 4 class guitar lessons. Weekly singing assemblies are held for each year group. The Choir meets weekly and performs locally and nationally, for example, The Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena and The Young Barnardo's Concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

**Dance** Dance clubs are held throughout the year linked to opportunities provided by the Milton Keynes Schools Partnership. Dance has a high profile in each year groups' annual performance for parents. A group of older children perform a ballroom and a Latin dance at the MK Just dance competition.

**Drama** is a key element of our literacy units of work and is used as a powerful creative teaching tool across the curriculum. e.g. hot seating, role play and storytelling.

**Performance** All children have the opportunity to take part in an annual production. This is where Loughton School brings together all areas of the creative arts. Years 3 and 4 perform in the autumn term, Year 5 in the spring term and Year 6 in the summer term.

The school actively encourages links with the local community. Groups from within the school perform locally, regionally and nationally.

**ICT and multimedia** Children are taught ICT in weekly lessons. In addition opportunities are sort to use ICT to research, report and record their learning. Children are encouraged to write reports for the website. Each class has a digital leader. Their role is to support and encourage other children in this area.

### **Facilities and Resources**

- Large hall suitable for dance, drama, productions and exhibitions of work
- Mobile staging and high quality lighting and sound system
- Well-equipped music room, small peripatetic music room
- Designated art room and art stock cupboard
- PE equipment store
- Design and technology resource area and trolley
- ICT suite
- Class set of ipads, and class set of mini laptops
- Costumes and props store and make-up resources
- Outside story telling circle

### **Partnerships**

We believe the value of partnerships with other organisations demonstrates excellence and raises awareness of opportunities and expectations in the arts. The links benefit:

- Curriculum developments

- Community links
- Staff development
- Children's creative achievements
- The raised profile of the creative arts

Through effective communication and liaison with our feeder schools we ensure effective partnerships covering a range of art forms including those of other cultures, traditions and times.

Our partnerships offer a range of learning opportunities and we are always looking for new ones.

Children at Loughton have the opportunity to:

- Take part in inspiring day visits and residentials
- Participate in music and dance events with children from other schools
- Listen to visiting artists and musicians
- Experience visiting plays, theatre groups and workshops
- Perform to groups in the local community

### **Equal Opportunities**

- All children should have equal access to the Creative Arts curriculum in line with the school's Single Equality Scheme and Inclusion Policy.
- Planning is differentiated to support those children with additional learning needs.
- A pupil with specific needs may need to be supported by a teaching assistant in addition to appropriately differentiated tasks.
- We aim to give all children the opportunity to develop an appreciation of creative arts from different cultures through planned work including a variety of cultural backgrounds.
- Children identified as more able in the Creative Arts will be challenged and motivated by differentiated work given by the teacher appropriate to their needs.
- A More Able and Talented Register will include children identified as significantly talented in the Creative Arts. The children will be encouraged to foster their talents and will be challenged appropriately through class teaching and the opportunity to access extra-curricular activities.

### **Assessment, Recording and Reporting**

The children will be assessed through a range of activities including: observation, discussion, peer assessment and practical work. Teachers record the progress made by children against the learning objectives for their lessons.

Information from assessment is used to inform the teachers' planning and to help the teacher identify ways forward for the pupils' learning.

Progress in art and design, music, physical education, speaking, listening and writing are formally recorded in an annual report to parents.

### **Health and Safety**

In their planning the teachers will anticipate likely safety issues. Children will always be encouraged to consider safety for themselves, others and the environment when undertaking activities. (see relevant risk assessments which form part of the Health and Safety Policy)

Any member of staff, or visiting adult involved with creative arts activities within the school will comply with Loughton School's Health and Safety Policy.

### **Management and organisation**

Subject managers and the head teacher, together with class teachers, are responsible for the production and review of the planning for continuity and progression. Subject managers will regularly monitor and evaluate the teaching and learning of the creative arts in all year groups. Staff will be kept up to date with developments in the arts through staff meetings, INSET, courses and CPD opportunities. Planning for future developments will be achieved through annual action plans. Resources are audited, maintained and supplemented on a regular basis by the appropriate subject managers.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The monitoring of standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in the creative arts is the responsibility of the appropriate subject leaders, the head teacher and the governing body.

Monitoring is carried out in the form of observation, speaking to and questioning children and looking through evidence of work and planning.

Monitoring will be used to develop planning and to ensure effective learning for all children. In addition to this, it will be used to identify staff development needs and to ensure appropriate resources are provided.

Subject area reviews are made annually which report on achievements and indicate areas for further improvement.