

# School Curriculum Subject Guide

## Creative Arts

(last updated in June 2016)

### Aims

Through the Creative Arts curriculum we aim to:

- not only allow students to develop specific skills but also to encourage them to use their imagination and to express themselves through a variety of media
- foster the students' understanding and enjoyment of the arts through the development of skills, concepts and attitudes
- place the child at the centre of the learning process enabling them to respond creatively to the world and in the way they perceive it." (EQUALS)

"Through the scheme of work for Creative Arts all pupils will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding working with a wide range of media that is presented at a pace and in a form suited to their learning style and individual needs. Pupils will be given opportunities to develop their self esteem through the celebration of their achievement. There is no right or wrong way to perform, compose or produce a piece of creative work as outcomes are determined by each individual. Creative Arts teaching should:

- Place the pupils at the centre of the learning process enabling them to respond creatively to the world around them.
- Enable the pupils to develop their knowledge and skills through exploration of materials and use of specific techniques.
- Encourage the students to express themselves positively within a range of different contexts.
- Encourage the students to develop their imagination and creative responses using a variety of media.
- Develop communication and interaction skills working with others in co-operative situations.
- Increase their independence and skills of planning, reviewing and amending their work.
- Foster the pupils understanding and enjoyment of the arts through a wide range of learning opportunities

These aims and purposes are expanded below.

### **MUSIC:**

Pupils should be supported to:

- Develop their imagination, express ideas and communicate feelings through the medium of instruments, music and sound.
- Develop improvisation and composition skills in a range of contexts using different types and styles of music.
- Foster a greater understanding of musical structures and terminology responding to music both individually and within a group.

### **DRAMA:**

Pupils should:

- Participate in individual and shared activities that encourage communication and co-operation with others.
- Express their ideas, feelings and opinions, developing their self confidence through a range of learning opportunities and safe contexts.
- Be active in role play, performance, expression, composition and rehearsal, utilising a range of verbal and non-verbal communication skills. "(EQUALS)"

### **Teaching strategies**

"In order to achieve success, different teaching methods, approaches and contexts should be used for different activities. Effective teaching will be dependent on:

- the teacher being an enabler and provider of knowledge and resources
- the teacher being a collaborator in a spirit of a shared enterprise.
- the teacher setting high expectations so as to challenge pupils, deepen their knowledge and understanding and in so doing allow them to experience success and to raise their self esteem.
- teachers planning effectively, using their knowledge of the subject and the levels of pupils achievement
- teachers seeking to develop pupils' ability to discriminate, select and judge for themselves

- the teachers input being responsive to each pupil's performance in order that the pupil retains control
- teachers providing pupils with a range of appropriate resources which allows them to freely experiment and develop their imaginative capabilities
- activities and lessons which allow for differentiation through ability level, either by varying resources, activities or teaching approach". (EQUALS)

“Effective learning will be dependent upon:

- A pupil centred approach based on the development of the senses through direct experience which will enable the pupil to interpret and enjoy creative activities.
- Pupils working individually and with others as part of a team, observing and comparing how others work and what they have done and so evolving styles of their own.
- Pupils being encouraged to make appropriate use of information and to evaluate their own work and that of others.
- Pupils learning through methods such as exploration, experimentation, demonstration and problem solving.” (EQUALS)

### **Identified outcomes**

“To ensure pupils make progression within Creative Arts, teaching should provide opportunities as they move through school to progress:

- From indicating their awareness of changes in sounds and understanding of a stimulus starting and stopping, to demonstrating an awareness of pitch, rhythm, duration, dynamics, temp and timbre. Being able to listen and appreciate a variety of sounds and music.
- From being active in elements of role play, expression and simple compositions to using their imagination and creativity to work co-operatively with others in a range of context.” (EQUALS)