

St Helena's Church of England Primary School, Willoughby.

"To Learn is to Live!"

ARTS' POLICY

**Valuing Compassion, Community, Endurance, Friendship, Hope, Thankfulness,
Wisdom and Respect**

What are the Arts?

In our school, the Arts embrace music, dance, drama, visual art and design as powerful vehicles to develop all individuals' creativity, curiosity and identity.

Our school's commitment to the Arts:

All members of the Governing Body and the staff feel it is their responsibility to empower everyone to achieve academic, social and personal recognition for his or her efforts. We are all committed to developing a learning environment where everyone can create, perform, think, explore and investigate for themselves. Our fourth school aim states that:

"We aim to help each individual enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum enriched with a wide range of learning opportunities."

As a school we want to give everyone the opportunity to use the Arts discretely and in many areas of the curriculum, certain in the belief that it will unlock their creative and emotional potential.

We are also committed in our teaching to the Arts Council's seven principles:

1. Striving for Excellence
2. Emphasising authenticity
3. Being inspiring and engaging
4. Ensuring a positive child-centred experience
5. Actively involving children and young people
6. Providing a sense of personal progression
7. Developing a sense of ownership and belonging

Transferable Skills as a learner:

The value of taking part in Arts' projects encourages:

- High motivation to succeed
- Improved commitment to see a project through
- Personal engagement and involvement with people and cultures
- Personal expression and awareness
- Personal reflection

- Exploration of life's big questions
- Power of practical learning, crucial to understanding
- Improved collaboration to work with and support fellow actors
- Communication and presentation
- Critical and creative thinking
- Working to deadlines
- Concentration and self discipline
- Purposeful reading and writing
- Increased self esteem

Our Aims for the Arts:

We believe all our children are entitled to:

- engage with a variety of art forms, exploring values, attitudes, feelings and meanings,
- develop the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks,
- work independently, in teams and with Arts experts to present artworks to others,
- develop an understanding of the importance and value of the Arts in our global society.

Aim	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage with a variety of art forms, exploring values, attitudes, feelings and meanings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide an arts curriculum of quality, range and depth • provide opportunities for cross curricular work eg, using art as a starting point for each new theme • provide opportunities to develop those transferable skills listed above • to ensure all staff have access to regular continuing professional development that refreshes their own creativity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give pupils opportunities to design and complete artworks in the full range of art forms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work independently, in teams and with Arts experts to present artworks to others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give all pupils an opportunity to exhibit work • take part in a performance at least twice a year • give Y2-6 pupils the opportunity to take part in at least one out of hours arts activity • present art works to parents and the community at least twice a year

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop an understanding of the importance and value of the Arts in our global society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ambition is to offer all pupils an opportunity to work alongside professional person in the arts once a year • enable pupils to see work exhibited and performed by a professional at least twice a year
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Our actions for the Arts:

The annual Self Review process takes place in the Summer term with all staff, Governors, children and parents. This identifies our school's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and prioritises our school development plans.

Creative thinking and learning will be a strategic priority for every School Development Plan and appropriate Arts action plans will meet the identified subject needs. The action plans include key objectives, people responsible, timed tasks, success targets, identified people involved in monitoring and evaluation and funding.

At St Helena's CE School we will have identified governors for this subject as and when it is a School Development priority. The governors will be invited to attend relevant professional development sessions and to closely monitor and evaluate the impact of any school actions.

They will be invited to visit the school termly to talk with the staff and children and when possible, observe children learning. They will report back to the Strategy committee on a regular basis.

This policy was agreed by the Governing Body and will be reviewed annually unless important DfE guidance precipitates review.