



Atherton Sacred Heart RC Primary School

The Creative Arts

***'An artist is not a special kind of person;
rather each person is a special kind of artist.'***
Ananda Coomaraswamy

Statement of Entitlement

We believe that the arts are a fundamental part of the curriculum and define the arts as music, dance, drama, art and literature. We believe that the arts offer opportunities for the children to explore, express and communicate their feelings whilst gaining experiences of the wider world. Through experiencing the arts, children develop their creativity, self-esteem and confidence.

Aims of the School

At Sacred Heart we show a strong commitment to the arts to ensure a full and rounded education for all pupils. There is an entitlement to a wide range of arts experiences for every pupil as part of and in addition to the curriculum. Our school aims:

- To provide a broad, balanced and exciting arts curriculum, which enables motivation, originality and imagination as well as development of skills
- To raise the standards of arts education in school
- To enhance children's appreciation of different cultures through the arts
- To provide high quality arts experiences and resources for our children
- To develop effective links with the community which strengthen and offer diverse arts provision
- To celebrate the artistic achievements of each child
- To continue to develop the use of computing and new technologies in creative work

Objectives

The above aims will be met through the provision of opportunities for all children:

- To continue to develop links with artists and organisations and broaden interests by being introduced to different arts experiences
- To provide a range of materials and skills with which to engage children
- To be able to develop cross-curricular work e.g. using performance as a stimulus for writing
- To perform to a wider audience and in different venues
- To perform and celebrate creative thought and outcome and value every child's contribution to the arts as important
- To use computing and new technologies to explore and extend creative thought

Pupil Entitlement

All children, regardless of gender, race, culture, background and ability have an entitlement to arts education at an appropriate and challenging level. To ensure that children experience high standards of success, creative development needs to be taught to children's abilities to ensure progress. Through arts teaching all children are:

- Motivated
- Offered a range of resources to meet their needs
- Given diverse and creative teaching styles

Time in the Curriculum

At Sacred Heart we provide curriculum time for teaching in art, design, dance, music and drama to give all pupils a broad programme. We use the arts to develop a creative approach to learning in other curriculum areas. Computing and new technologies are used to enhance the delivery of the arts curriculum.

Foundation Stage

In the Foundation Stage the Arts are incorporated into Creative Development.

- Weekly Key Stage assembly (incorporating singing)
- Christmas Production – combination of all art forms
- CHIME
- Continuous Provision
- Art is taught weekly or blocked into longer sessions

Key Stage One

- Weekly Key Stage assembly (incorporating singing)
- Christmas Production– combination of all Arts forms
- Art is taught weekly or blocked into longer sessions
- Music is taught using units of work taken from Inside Music (The Voices Foundation)
- Two units of dance per year group
- Drama is taught both as subject in its own right and used to enrich subjects across the curriculum
- Creative Arts weeks/days
- Creative use of computing and new technologies
- Visiting theatre groups/artists/musicians

Key Stage Two

- Weekly singing practise
- Celebration assemblies/festivals involving drama, music, poetry, dance and art
- Art is taught weekly or blocked into longer sessions
- Music units taken from Inside Music (The Voices Foundation)
- One unit of dance per year group
- Drama is taught as an explicit subject within Arts curriculum time. Extra drama-based activities are incorporated into other areas of the curriculum
- Creative Arts days
- Summer production
- Access to peripatetic music teaching of a variety of instruments
- Wider Opportunities Scheme for Music in Year 5 (woodwind)
- Regular arts activities and performances for school, parents and the wider community
- Visiting theatre groups/artists/musicians
- Trips to galleries
- Creative use of computing and new technologies

Additional Opportunities

As well as providing a creative and enriched Arts curriculum, we also provide a range of exciting out of hours opportunities for children. Staff provide a range of clubs for pupils, including many that are arts-based (choir, sewing, drama, dance, art). Many pupils also take part in Music Service Events and we encourage pupils to further their Arts interests out of school.

Cross-curricular Links

At Sacred Heart, we believe that cross-curricular work offers a creative way to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding while motivating them to learn through stimulating, interconnected topics. It also gives teachers opportunities to encourage active enquiry, taking the initiative, and discussion and debate by children. Cross-curricular links are made through careful whole school planning and liaison between subject leaders. These links are evident in our topic planning webs for all year groups. Our multi-cultural work helps children to recognize and celebrate difference and diversity. Arts days and events provide excellent opportunities for further links across art forms and other subjects.

Partnerships

We believe the value of partnerships with Arts organisations demonstrate excellence and raise awareness of opportunities and expectations in the Arts. The links benefit:

- Curriculum development
- Community links
- Staff development
- Children's creative achievements
- The profile of the Arts

Through effective communication and liaison we ensure effective partnerships covering a range of Art forms including those of other cultures, venues and activities.

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

Children are able to experience these through:

- Gallery visits
- Visiting artists and musicians
- Wider Opportunities Music
- Participating in Music Service events
- Talented staff, parents and governors within the school
- Plays, Theatre company visits & Workshops
- Working in partnership with the Turnpike Gallery in Leigh

Updated: September 2017

Review date: September 2019

Management and Organisation

Sacred Heart has Arts subject leaders who work with staff, parents, governors and artists and who are involved with cluster and borough events within the community.

The subject leaders are responsible for:

- Developing and updating the schemes of work for all stages
- Supporting teachers and subject leaders with cross-curricular links
- Overseeing and developing resources
- Monitoring and evaluating through classroom observation, planning, work scrutiny and interviewing children
- Keeping staff up to date through staff meetings, INSET, courses in the Arts and alerting them to CPD opportunities
- Keeping governors informed and working with designated Arts governor
- Providing additional out of hours activities
- Working with visiting artists and other partners
- Planning for future developments through annual action plans and subject reviews

Monitoring and Evaluating

The Arts leaders monitor planning, collect evidence of work and perform work scrutiny, observe teaching and interview pupils.

Health and Safety

Any member of staff or Arts partnership involved in activities within the school must comply with the Sacred Heart's Health and Safety Policy. Children are expected to behave responsibly at all times.