

# **CANTRELL PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL**



## **POLICY FOR THE ARTS**

**January 2017**

## **Introduction**

This policy reflects Cantrell Primary School's values and philosophy in relation to the teaching and learning of the arts. It sets out a framework within which teaching and non-teaching staff can operate and gives guidance on planning, teaching and assessment.

The policy document is intended for:

- ✓ all teaching staff
- ✓ school governors
- ✓ parents/carers
- ✓ LA advisors/inspectors
- ✓ inspection teams including Ofsted
- ✓ teaching students

Copies are provided for school staff and governors available at our Reception and to view on our school website. The Arts file, which includes this policy, is located in the PPA room.

## **School Aims**

Cantrell Primary is a caring and nurturing environment where we encourage all our children to aim to do their best each day. Our school motto of 'Harmony through Working Together' reflects our belief in the power of teamwork. This extends to the purposeful, professional link between staff and learners. We teach our children to respect themselves and show respect and appreciation for others. We provide an exciting curriculum so that all our pupils are able to develop their interests and talents and become happy, lifelong learners who acquire the skills, abilities and become confident adults. We motivate and inspire our pupils through providing Arts opportunities including; workshops, visits, performances, high quality music tuition, opportunities to learn about the environment and growing, links with other countries and a range of sporting activities and events.

### **Our school Aims to:**

- ✚ Provide all our pupils with a structured and disciplined framework - one where success is celebrated and challenges are set and met and where children are encouraged to explore opportunities creatively.
- ✚ Continually improve standards of teaching and learning, focusing upon literacy, numeracy, and scientific investigation and developing pupils' ability to use ICT tools effectively.
- ✚ Provide innovative, creative and challenging teaching.
- ✚ Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that provides variety and equal opportunity for all pupils, allowing individuals to develop progressively and at their own rate.

- ✚ Provide planned educational opportunities that teach pupils about responsible behaviour in order that they will mature into people who will make valuable contributions to our diverse and multicultural world and the environment we live in.
- ✚ Involve parents and community in the daily life of the school to achieve common goals through partnership.
- ✚ Offer all staff and others involved with school the opportunity to continually develop their own skills, knowledge and understanding in order to meet both the school and their own needs



## Artsmark

Arts Council England has seven Quality principles to raise the quality of work by, with and for children and young people.

As an Artsmark school, we aim to deliver a curriculum in keeping with these principles. The Quality principles are embedded throughout the new Artsmark award to better support schools to achieve their ambitions for high quality arts and cultural provision. The seven Quality principles are:

1. Striving for excellence and innovation
2. Being authentic
3. Being exciting, inspiring and engaging
4. Ensuring a positive and inclusive experience
5. Actively involving children and young people
6. Enabling personal progression
7. Developing belonging and ownership



**Artsmark**  
AWARDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

## Subject Aims

Aim	Objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure all children experience the richness of a broad arts curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide dedicated curriculum time for the arts including creative writing, art and design, dance, drama and music at Key Stages 1 and 2</li> <li>provide a range of extra-curricular arts activities</li> <li>provide theme days where children in every class across the school take part in creative activities</li> <li>use Cantrell's excellent environment to support and facilitate the development of the arts (including the community garden, implementation of forest schools, outdoor story and role play areas and new staging in the hall).</li> <li>Provide a hub for parents to access information about the local arts scene.</li> <li>planned opportunities provided by the arts for children to know and celebrate the range of world cultures that are reflected in the arts through local, regional, national and international sources (see global dimensions link school in Rwanda)</li> <li>work with partners to contribute to an annual carnival event to celebrate the children's artistic successes</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To engage with a variety of art forms, to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan programmes and other events with family/partner schools to sustain and increase opportunities for all</li> <li>to ensure all children are able to visit/partake in professionally run performances/exhibitions/workshops</li> <li>to promote pupils' self-esteem and encourage pupils to appreciate the achievement of others</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• celebrate the school's creativity each year via the Cantrell Carnival summer event</li> <li>• develop and maintain links between Cantrell and our network of schools, including schools in the EAZ, The Bulwell Academy and Top Valley Academy.</li> <li>• develop and maintain links with a wide range of Nottingham's cultural and artistic organisations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop children's ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to embed our 'Arts Ambassadors' to include all four key areas of the arts</li> <li>• to develop a love and appreciation of the arts</li> <li>• teach the skills of peer and self-assessment by making the criteria for assessment explicit</li> <li>• to achieve a balance between the process, making and appraising</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide each child with opportunities to be inspired by the arts and achieve success through the arts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide our children with access to opportunities that celebrate their achievements in the arts</li> <li>• ensure our arts facilities and resources are of the highest quality and accessible to the full range of children, including those who have special needs or are hard to reach</li> <li>• provide regular opportunities for the arts to be celebrated in school with the school/local/wider community</li> <li>• to use the strengths of our school team to provide opportunities for the children to be supported in the development of their arts abilities.</li> <li>• to have high expectations and provide opportunities for all pupils to achieve, both boys and girls, pupils with special educational needs, pupils with disabilities and pupils from all social and cultural backgrounds</li> <li>• to provide training opportunities for young people delivered via our Arts Award programme</li> </ul>
<p>These objectives will be implemented through action plans for individual arts subjects found in our School Improvement Plan.</p>	

## Cantrell Creatives

The Cantrell Creatives are a flexible working/leadership group for the arts which acts as an internal network to link together all aspects of art from the school community. We strongly believe in the wealth of talent staff and aim to continually develop exciting and children and celebrate

possessed by the Cantrell challenge one another to innovative ways to engage creativity.



## Curriculum Statement – Art and Design

This subject encourages self-expression, creativity and imagination. It provides visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a unique way of responding to the world. Pupils use colour, form, texture, pattern and various media and processes to communicate what they see, hear, feel and think. Through these activities, pupils learn to make informed value judgements and aesthetic and practical decisions. In this way, they are actively involved in shaping the environment at Cantrell. Pupils explore the ideas and meanings of Artists, Craftspeople and Designers. Pupils learn about the diverse roles and functions of Art, Craft and Design in contemporary life and in historical times and cultures.

### Aims and Objectives

- To develop excellent standards throughout the school.
- To develop visual and physical awareness and good practice in art education.
- To be given opportunities to enjoy art, to express creatively and with imagination.
- To be able to record work.
- To become visually literate by experiencing the visual elements of Art.
- To develop critical power.
- To experience the Art of different cultures and times.
- To experience different media and to experiment.
- To learn about Design and Craft.



## Curriculum Statement – Drama

We aim to make Drama an integral part of the school curriculum at Cantrell Primary School. In all subjects, including all pupils, drama can be taught through activities such as hot seating, role plays, conscience alleys, dramatic plays and freeze frames. We believe that drama develops the following specific skills:

- information-processing skills, e.g. sequencing and comparing
- reasoning skills, e.g. drawing inferences and making deductions
- enquiry skills, e.g. asking relevant questions and testing conclusions
- creative thinking skills, e.g. generating and extending ideas, applying imagination and looking for alternative endings
- evaluation skills, e.g. judging the value of their own and others' work

When teaching drama we follow the model of: making, performing and responding. All classes and all children perform both to their peers and to parents through the school year. We value opportunities to celebrate festivals and traditions through school productions. As the children progress through the school, they become more confident at performing. This learning journey culminates in a sophisticated, highly anticipated Year 6 production.



## Curriculum Statement – Dance

At Cantrell Primary School we believe that dance is a powerful art form, in which children can develop a range of social skills involving team work, problem solving, communication, confidence and respect. Children should:

- Be able to work effectively as a group to choreograph routines.
- Explore body language and expression to communicate meaning in a dance.
- Critically evaluate their own work and the work of others.
- Gain experience of a range of dance styles including ballet, street dance, theatre and modern.
- Create routines inspired by the work of professional choreographers.

Where possible, dance should be used across the curriculum. For example, creating African style dances when studying Rwanda, or when studying World War II routines can be created to popular music from the time.

Each dance session should incorporate aspects of health and safety. A ten minute warm up needs to be included as well as a five-minute cool down. During intensive lessons water should be made available to children. School PE kit should be worn, long hair will need to be tied back and all jewellery removed.



## Curriculum Statement – Music

Music plays an important role in everyday life. We hear it all around us, we dance to it, relax with it, are refreshed and stimulated by it. It is difficult to imagine a society without some form of music. Music should be an integral part of the school curriculum for each child. It can give great pleasure to children, and as well as enjoyment, contributes to the physical, social, intellectual, emotional and aesthetic areas of a child's growth. We expect all children to achieve the highest standards through the following: -

## **Aims and Objectives**

Children at Cantrell will be given the opportunity to: -

- Enjoy making music – individually, with each other as a group, class, Key Stage or whole school.
- Explore and develop control of sounds made by the voice and a range of instruments, and be able to use these to describe ideas, moods and feelings.
- Translate sounds into symbols and vice versa, and, where appropriate, begin to develop an understanding of musical notation.
- Be confident in using their voices and be able to sing a number of songs from memory.
- To respond to the characteristics and moods of a wide range of music.
- Be able to express their opinions freely and respect the views of others.

## **Method and Approach**

At Cantrell Primary School Drama, Dance, Music and Art and Design are taught in ways appropriate to each subject. Each area of the arts is taught, wherever possible, in a cross curricular way. See individual policies for further information.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

There are coordinators for each of the four areas of the arts: Art and Design, Music, Drama and Dance, along with the designated senior management lead. The role of each coordinator is:

- To develop a clear view of the subject according to statutory requirements and its contribution to the whole school curriculum.
- To provide advice and documentation to support colleagues in teaching the subject and its constituent elements.
- To play a major part in organising policies, schemes of work and resources.
- To monitor by using the rolling programme.
- To evaluate standards of pupil's achievement.
- To identify trends and patterns in performance of pupils.
- To contribute to the overall evaluation of work and to make suggestions for improvement.

**Parental Involvement**

Parent helpers and other volunteers may sometimes be used to support children in arts activities. They are carefully briefed by the teacher as to the learning objectives. They will not be left alone with children and will always be supervised by the teacher.

**Special Needs**

Most arts activities can be differentiated to become accessible to all children. All children are taught with careful consideration of their needs. Extra support is given when necessary.

**Gifted and Talented**

Children who are gifted and talented in the Arts usually display exceptional interest. They work longer than others at set tasks and show attention to detail. They may draw fluently and record accurately, using appropriate perspective. They may have excellent expression and be more confident in their vision and engagement. They may show originality and flair. They may develop and interpret visual or physical ideas for a longer time.

**Equal Opportunities**

The arts subjects will be taught in line with the school's Equal Opportunities policy, ensuring that all the children will have opportunities to undertake all activities appropriate to their level of ability and with respect to their background and beliefs.

**Health and Safety**

All leaders of arts activities should ensure there is sufficient space to accommodate the children's needs. Any resources used within arts activities need to be done so in a safe manner and be fully supervised where appropriate.