

Creative Arts Policy

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Introduction

In Fairchildes Academy Community Trust (FACT), we define the arts as music, dance, drama, art and film. The arts are a fundamental part of the ethos of FACT and are considered important across all 3 schools. We give our pupils the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of arts opportunities. The arts are built into the weekly curriculum for all children and we are continually striving for excellence and innovation in our offer. The provision of the creative arts within school is not simply a vehicle for wider growth opportunities, but is also a foundation for a lifelong source of well-being and enjoyment. Additionally, the arts offer insight into other people's values and beliefs, allowing the individual to understand and express opinions about their world.

Aims and Objectives

As a trust we seek to use the arts as a vehicle for our children to have high aspirations, to see themselves as creators of the arts and to be exposed to opportunities which widen their horizons.

- We want our arts to be authentic, for the children to see a purpose in their learning with lessons being exciting, inspiring and engaging.
- We aim to ensure that through experiencing the arts, children develop their creativity, self-esteem and confidence.
- In FACT schools, our aim is to provide an Arts curriculum that will enable every child to grow creatively. This is achieved through investigating and making, performing, developing and evaluating their own skills.

- To offer all children, whilst encompassing their own heritage and cultural origins and considering factors of gender and of physical and mental ability, the opportunity to experience all of the arts in their education.
- In art we aim to provide a diverse range of experiences by exposing the children to a variety of art from different cultures, eras and elements.
- In music, we aim to develop social skills when making music together and to develop children's skills, knowledge and understanding in performing, composing, listening and appraising.

Teaching and Learning

The schemes of work for Art and Music in FACT Academy are based upon the National Curriculum. Some learning takes place that is explicit to visual art and design, where the context is purely arts-based learning. At other times, learning will be built around meaningful cross curricular activities that enhance learning across subjects. E.g Enriching Diversity in history through the art curriculum.

Our music curriculum uses Charanga music world and Sparkyard digital platforms to deliver our learning. Our EYFS plan their musical learning through their integrated topics.

Dance lessons are incorporated through our Physical Education curriculum.

Assessment

The approach to assessment, record keeping and reporting of this subject area follows the whole school policy guidelines.

Feedback from adults and peers is verbal within lessons to encourage confidence in self-expression and 'in the moment'. Children record their work in Art in sketchbooks or in individual or collective pieces for display. Musical learning is practically based and teachers are all required to contribute to a portfolio of musical clips stored digitally. Reports to parents are completed annually.

Inclusion

As teachers we must be aware of, and respond to, pupils' diverse learning needs, including those with English as an additional language, those with learning difficulties, and the more able pupils. Teachers will identify more able, and those with SEND and also those with English as an additional language and ensure they are supported and challenged.

All children will have access to the arts, therefore work and activities will be adapted accordingly to ensure that children of all abilities participate to their full potential. Consideration will be given to resources used to ensure they are accessible for all. When planning visits, physical abilities will always be considered, as well as the sensory needs of individuals.

Any materials used should present other cultures, countries and peoples in a balanced and positive way. Children should be taught to appreciate these commonalities and differences in people and cultures around the world. The arts should be seen as a vehicle to celebrate difference in our school community. This includes the study of a range of diverse artists, such as Alison Lapper and Jacob Lawrence. We want our Arts curriculum to be ready to reflect the needs of our 21st century learners in an authentic way.

Other Subject Relevant Areas

Art can also be seen as a pathway to a greater experience of Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development. Through various activities we feel that the Arts can develop children's aesthetic appreciation. Additionally, through visual learning and performance the Arts can evoke feelings of 'awe' and 'wonder'. Art is also a space that gives children the chance to reflect on nature, their environment and surroundings.

Health and Safety

Teachers will always ensure the safe use of all tools and equipment and insist on good practice in all areas of the arts. It is imperative that adult supervision and guidance is provided when children are using specialist arts equipment e.g. glue guns, sharp tools etc. To ensure the safety of all pupils, the school keeps a comprehensive record of allergies, which is updated every academic year and available to all staff.