



Friars Primary School Creative Arts policy



Friars Primary School is a lively, vibrant and creative school. We have a very mixed intake of children with a wealth of different abilities, experiences and talents to offer and enrich our school community. We motivate and challenge our learners in a caring, creative, enjoyable and secure environment.

Friars Primary School is committed to provide opportunities, through art, music, drama, creative writing and dance for all children to develop their creative skills and imagination. These curricular areas support and enhance other areas of the curriculum. This is often achieved through our creative curriculum, the Creative Learning Journey.

Aims and Objectives

We aim to provide all children at Friars with:

- The opportunity to learn about and through the arts. Children will participate in and experience a broad and balanced range of arts, which will also enhance other areas to provide a rich and exciting curriculum.
- The opportunity to develop a progressive range of skills, confidence and self-esteem.
- Arts activities that help them access other areas of the curriculum, understand different cultures as well as those from the local community.
- The opportunity to develop vocabulary so they are able to communicate their experiences and ideas and to evaluate their own and others work.
- The opportunity to perform creatively in class assemblies, shows and productions.
- The opportunity, when it arises to take part in borough and inter-school activities.
- The opportunity to use class based role play to develop language and communication skills.

Curriculum provision

Our school ethos and curriculum reflects the importance we place on the arts. All provision was updated in line with the 2014 National Curriculum from September 2014.

- Art lessons are planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum from the Foundation stage through to Year 6.
- Drama is a key element of our entire curriculum and is used as a powerful teaching tool.
- Dance is taught as part of our Physical Education programme and we have a sound partnership with a specialist dance teacher that gives every child access to high quality dance lessons every week.
- Music is taught by a specialist in all classes as part of the weekly timetable and we have a singing assembly every week.
- All children have the opportunity to take part in at least one performance, for parents and the wider community, during the school year. These performances will be generated within the school or in partnership with credible external organisations such as the Globe Theatre, Southbank Sinfonia and Ballet Rambert.
- All children are taught to use their voice as a musical instrument.

Equal Opportunities

We will provide arts opportunities to all our children regardless of gender, race or ability. The arts may be used to develop children's learning throughout the curriculum, particularly for those with special needs, including gifted and talented children. During the year we offer a range of after-school clubs (the take up of which are routinely analysed in terms of gender, ethnicity and SEN) and we arrange a variety of outings, take part in different arts projects, competitions etc. We hold events such as Art and International week and work with our PTFA to organise events throughout the year.

Planning, Assessment, Progression and Evaluation

- Meetings are planned throughout the year so that teachers can ensure the skills are covered within each area of the curriculum and gaps are addressed and responded to promptly
- The arts are planned for carefully within year groups and we include many opportunities for cross- curricular work, in order to engage the children.
- Individual subject leaders monitor termly planning and offer support and guidance. Issues or initiatives that may indicate needs for further development are discussed and may be put into our School Improvement Plan.
- Lessons and children's work are evaluated by staff through discussion and observations and on –going teacher assessment is used to inform future planning and report back to parents.
- The school governors also monitor activities in the arts
- Individual arts policies are evaluated and reviewed by the coordinator and staff.

Evaluation

The Creative Arts policy at Friars will be regularly evaluated and reviewed, alongside the Teaching and Learning policy, through the school development planning process to ensure quality and supported by continuing INSET.