



Arts Policy

Review Date July 2027

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day; Working Together



ARTS POLICY

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Definition of 'The Arts'

'The Arts' is defined as Art, Music, Dance and Drama within our school curriculum. Each of these subjects is incorporated into daily planning, teaching and learning to offer a creative curriculum.

Mission Statement

At Crabtree Farm Primary School we firmly believe that every child is entitled to a full inclusive education, which enables them to express themselves and be creative in their own ways.

We are committed to enhancing and enriching every child's learning, incorporating the arts curriculum into everything we do by planning a creative learning journey throughout the school.

We are passionate about developing and promoting the arts through our creative approach to teaching and learning, which we hope enables children to aim and achieve high standards which often exceed their own expectations.

We also provide our children with opportunities to learn about themselves and about the world not only through access to a broad arts curriculum, but also through opportunities to perform, share and celebrate their successes, talents and experiences.

We strongly believe that the arts also nurture and develop the sometimes 'overlooked curriculum' which teaches children to be enthusiastic, ambitious and respectful and to develop high self-esteem and belief in themselves and their own strengths and abilities. The school believes that good arts teaching brings children together and helps them foster positive attitudes as part of the school community and as local and global citizens.

To enjoy, excel and achieve our best is the essence of teaching and learning at Crabtree Farm Primary School and we believe our continuous development of arts provision is allowing us to nurture positive, caring individuals with their own special strengths, talent and accomplishments.

Aims

At Crabtree Farm Primary School our overarching policy for the arts aims to:

- Provide a broad, inspiring arts curriculum which provides opportunities for imagination, personal discovery and excellence, particularly through music, dance, drama and art.
- Offer pupils a means of expressing and sharing experiences, feeling and ideas in resourceful, creative ways.
- Promote an atmosphere of enjoyment and competence where children are self-motivated and strive to achieve their potential.
- Develop and promote pupils' understanding and appreciation of the diverse cultures and varied social and physical environments in which they live, both locally and globally.
- Encourage pupils to investigate, make judgments and solve problems.
- Provide pupils with the necessary communication and artistic skills to realise and express their intentions and visions.
- Develop pupils' appreciation and understanding of the work of artists and performers.
- Raise standards throughout the curriculum by using the arts as a platform for exploration, deeper understanding and enjoyment of other subjects.

Objectives

To achieve these aims, we will:

- Ensure children of every age, gender, ethnicity, religion, social background and ability have equal and, in certain cases, individualised access to the wide, holistic curriculum we offer at Crabtree Farm Primary School.
- Draw on the artistic expertise of staff members and people in the wider community; parents, carers, governors and artists and performers in the locality who can teach skills, inspire individuals and deepen understanding of different art forms.
- Develop our out-of-hours provision so that children have opportunities to further experience and understand the arts outside of the classroom.
- Ensure children are given the opportunities to share and celebrate their achievements in the arts through displays and performances.
- Ensure staff members are continually developing their own artistic skills and understanding in order to inspire, influence and teach to the highest possible standard.

Provision for the arts

Pupils' entitlement to the arts provision is guaranteed in three key ways:

1. Through a creatively planned and taught curriculum, which ensures coverage and progression of key skills and which aims to make as many links between the arts as possible.
2. Through experience linked to the whole school curriculum including community initiatives and events.
3. Through pupils own interests. This may be through involvement in after school clubs, arts events and in related performances within the local community.

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

By following our approach children will:

- Develop an understanding and enjoyment of art and design, music, drama and dance.
- Extend their understanding and appreciation of 'The Arts' from a variety of artists, musicians, actors, dancers and designers from different cultures.
- Develop the ability to observe, investigate, respond to and record the world around them through a variety of art forms.
- Develop their artistic, dramatic, musical and creative skills through a skills-based curriculum that ensures progression between year groups, using a range of opportunities, materials and processes, including ICT.
- Make increasingly informed and creative choices of media, instruments (including voice) and techniques for a given purpose.
- Use their artistic, musical, dramatic and creative skills to enhance learning and enjoyment in other curriculum areas.
- Have the opportunity to perform creatively and work collaboratively.

Subject Aims

| Aim | Objective |
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| To ensure all children experience the richness of a broad arts curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide dedicated curriculum time for 'The Arts' including Art and Design, Design Technology, Dance, Drama and Music at Key Stages 1 and 2 • provide a range of extra-curricular arts activities • provide themed weeks where children in every class across the school take part in creative activities • 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 • provide a balanced and well-planned curriculum which develops the pupil's artistic skills sequentially, taking into account their levels of development • continue to work with partners including ChalleNGe, Nottingham Music Hub and our Creative Bulwell Schools network. |
| To engage with a variety of art forms, to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan programmes and other events with partner schools to sustain and increase opportunities for all • to ensure all children are able to visit/partake in professionally run performances/exhibitions/workshops • to promote pupils' self-esteem and encourage pupils to appreciate the achievement of others • to take the opportunity to work with professional artists • to develop and maintain links between Crabtree Farm and our network of schools, including primary schools in the Bulwell area and The Bulwell Academy. • develop and maintain links with a wide range of Nottingham's cultural and artistic organisations |
| To develop children's ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop a school curriculum that matches the National Curriculum, but is individual to our context and needs • for a clear and well-planned progression in skills, techniques and knowledge to be followed through school linked to our curriculum plans • to embed our Arts Ambassadors to include all four key areas of 'The Arts' • to develop a love and appreciation of 'The Arts' • teach the skills of peer and self-assessment by making the criteria for assessment explicit • to achieve a balance between the process, making and appraising |
| To provide each child with opportunities to be inspired by The Arts and achieve success through The Arts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • provide regular opportunities for 'The Arts' to be celebrated in school with the school/local/wider community • to use the strengths of our school team to provide opportunities for the children to be supported in the development of their arts abilities. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • to promote and celebrate diversity within the framework of 'The Arts' and champion artists from the global majority • to ensure that contemporary artists are studied and, where possible, worked with • to work with our partner schools within the Creative Bulwell Schools network to establish a creative path for children to follow • to promote 'The Arts' as an important sector of the economy and promote careers in the creative industries |
| These objectives will be implemented through Curriculum Development Plans for individual arts subjects. | |

Teaching and Learning

'The Arts' are taught as part of the thematic approach of the creative curriculum. In their planning, teaching teams identify opportunities, within their cross curricular themes, to develop the key skills of the arts national curriculum as well as in discrete sessions. This enables teachers to employ powerful and creative teaching approaches tailored to meet the needs of their groups, motivating children so that learning is enriched through interesting topics.

Roles and Responsibilities

There are subject leaders for each of the 'The Arts' subjects: Art and Design, Design and Technology, Music, Drama and Dance.

The role of each subject leader 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.

Art and Design

At Crabtree Farm, our children will have the confidence and skills to experiment and create artwork using a wide range of artistic media, regardless of their ability. By using their knowledge of various artists, as well as making links to cultural art experiences within school and the wider community, they can develop and produce original ideas and outcomes which express their creativity.

Curriculum Statement – Art and Design

At Crabtree Farm Primary School, we believe that art stimulates creativity and imagination. It provides visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a unique way of understanding and responding to the world. It allows children to communicate what they see, feel and think through the use of colour, texture, pattern and different materials. We believe that art provides a platform from which to be creative, expressive and find success. Through art, children learn to make informed judgements and practical decisions. They explore ideas and find meaning through the work of artists. Art is a medium through which children can learn about different times, cultures and lives.

Aims and Objectives – Art and Design

At Crabtree Farm Primary School we believe that pupils should be able to:

- Enjoy participating in a wide range of art and design activities.
- Learn how to think in different ways to suit a wide variety of creative and challenging activities.
- To develop an understanding of the work of artists and designers and apply this to their own work.
- Design, prepare and evaluate projects, evaluating their ideas in order to improve their initial design
- Develop the ability to listen to each other and learn from other ideas in a positive manner.
- Develop knowledge of materials, choose preferences, experiment freely and learn to use a range of materials sensibly.
- Enjoy and appreciate the work of artist's first-hand, either by working with a professional artist or visiting a gallery.

Design and Technology

At Crabtree Farm, through an engaging DT curriculum, we aim to inspire our children to become the next engineers, designers, chefs, and architects.

Curriculum Statement – Design and Technology

At Crabtree Farm Primary School we believe that Design and Technology encourages self-expression verbally, diagrammatically and in written demonstrations. Creativity and imagination are central to the curriculum design which aims to ensure our learners develop a secure understanding of the 6 stages of the design process. Pupils use a broad range of materials, tools, skills and various media to plan and construct their chosen products. Through these activities, pupils learn to make informed value judgements and aesthetic and practical decisions. In this way, they are entirely immersed in product development – from researching a product market/audience to evaluating a product's use. Pupils explore a range of inventors, designers and skill sets (both contemporary and historical) so that they can see the impact of DT in the wider world and understand its significance in a broad range of areas. Where advantageous and appropriate, children are provided with opportunities to embrace an interactive approach to product development so that they may learn from problem solving and trial and error situations.

Aims and Objectives – Design and Technology

- To develop excellent standards throughout the school.
- To develop awareness and good practice of the 6 stages of product design in D&T education.
- To be given opportunities to work with a range of materials and tools.
- To be able to record work both in written form and other visual displays.
- To experience the significance of D&T in the wider world.
- To experience different media and to experiment.
- To learn about designers, inventors and significant achievements in the field of D&T.

Music

At Crabtree Farm, we aim to give our children the musical skills and knowledge to express themselves and live music experiences to inspire them.

Curriculum Statement – Music

At Crabtree Farm Primary School, we feel that music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It gives an opportunity for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of an individual. Music reflects our culture and society and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can be a highly academic and demanding subject. It is also important in helping children feel part of a community.

Aims and Objectives – Music

Music teaching at Crabtree Farm will give children the opportunity to:

- Enjoy working with others to make music, recognising how individuals combine together to make sounds;
- Enjoy and appreciate a wide variety of musical styles;
- Sing in tune and with other people;
- Know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- Play instruments with control and sensitivity;
- Know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- Know how music is composed and written down;
- Know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- Develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music;
- Make and quantify judgements about the quality of music;
- Play the acoustic guitar in Year 4 as part of Whole Class Ensemble lessons;
- Join Area Band in Years 5 & 6, playing their guitar as part of an orchestra;
- Attend musical trips and experiences.

Performing Arts

Children at Crabtree will feel full of confidence and self-belief and be able to express themselves in a range of different ways: dancing, singing, drawing, acting, painting, performing.

Curriculum Statement – Performing Arts

We aim to make Drama an integral part of the school curriculum at Crabtree Farm 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. When teaching Drama we follow the model of: making, performing and responding. All classes and all children perform both to their peers and once a year to parents and carers. 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.

Aims and Objectives – Performing Arts

- To develop information-processing skills, e.g. sequencing and comparing.
- To develop reasoning skills, e.g. drawing inferences and making deductions.
- To develop enquiry skills, e.g. asking relevant questions and testing conclusions.

- To develop creative thinking skills, e.g. generating and extending ideas, applying imagination and looking for alternative endings.
- To develop evaluation skills, e.g. judging the value of their own and others' work.

Dance

At Crabtree Farm, we provide an exciting and varied PE curriculum designed to give our children the knowledge, behaviours and skills to lead an active, healthy lifestyle.

Curriculum Statement – Dance

Here at Crabtree Farm Primary School, we believe that dance is an important art form for children to experience. Through a range of dance genres, children learn to develop a range of social skills that include improving their ability to work with others as part of a team, learn to communicate with both children and adults as well as building their confidence, resilience and respect for one another. Dance allows children a platform to express themselves both creatively and imaginatively and acts as a vehicle for young people to communicate their identity and culture to others. Where possible, opportunities to participate in dance experiences should be used across the curriculum when appropriate. Children are also given the option to participate in an after school club to develop their knowledge, skills and passion for dance further.

Aims and Objectives – Dance

- Work effectively as an individual, group or class 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 styles including street, acro and modern.
- Develop the confidence to perform in front of an audience.
- Create routines inspired by the work of professional choreographers.
- Perform to a wider audience at the end of a half term.

Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

Assessment through the key stages is continuous and subsequent evaluations inform future planning, matching work to the abilities and needs of the children. Analysis of data and monitoring indicates which children are working at and above expectations.

ICT

ICT packages and software programmes are used to support the arts throughout the school.

Links to the School Development Plan

- The school is undertaking the Artsmark Award to develop the arts throughout the curriculum.
- The arts subject leaders produce action plans annually outlining the targets for the year.
- An audit of the resources is taken annually.

Health and Safety

Care is taken to ensure that all instruments and equipment is handled carefully and under supervision.

Equal Opportunities

We passionately believe that all children are entitled to access our curriculum irrespective of age, gender, race, religion and social background. We feel that our approach to a creative curriculum and thematic teaching means that the arts make a vital contribution to the development of tolerance and understanding.

We also believe that the arts is an inclusive genre: accessible and achievable for all our children. This is reflected in teachers' planning where children with specific needs are identified and differentiated for.

Gifted and Talented

We also track pupils acknowledged as Gifted and Talented to ensure they are challenged to achieve their best. 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. Children who particularly enjoy an art form are invited to join our Arts Ambassador groups to provide a student voice to 'The Arts' within school.

Arts Provision outside the Curriculum

At Crabtree Farm Primary School, we continually aim to develop our extended provision for all pupils across all art forms. We ask the children for their thoughts and ideas about the provision they would most prefer to participate in and use their responses to decide what we offer. We also utilise staff members' strengths across the arts to offer children the best extended opportunities as possible.

We continually seek to develop our extended art provision which includes:

- Visits from theatres, dance and music projects
- Peripatetic music teachers
- Visiting professionals from all areas of the arts
- Providing visits to museums, galleries, places of worship, theatre productions and musical concerts
- Participation in drama, dance and music performances
- Choir
- Area band
- Guitar lessons
- Recorder lessons
- Dance, drama, art and music clubs
- Becoming involved with local and national initiatives

Mrs Toland

Arts Subject Leader

Revised February 2025, to be reviewed July 2027