



*What we do today, matters tomorrow.*

## **Stokes Wood Primary School**

### **Statement of Commitment to The Arts**

We believe that the Arts (Art, DT, dance, drama, music and creative writing) contribute to the development of the whole person by allowing for the personal exploration and expression of ideas, thoughts and feelings; through sensory, musical, physical and aesthetic experiences.

The Arts develop the individual's perception of the world through visual and physical means, communication of self-expression and help the individual interpret the world around us.

We believe that all children should be given opportunities to acquire and refine skills and techniques in all areas of the Arts. They should be supported in reflecting on, adapting, developing and improving their work.

Through these processes the children should acquire an understanding and appreciation of all art forms from a variety of cultures, styles and periods in history.

Learning in the Arts contributes to every child's intellectual, creative, aesthetic, emotional, spiritual, moral, social and physical development, engenders enjoyment, inspiration and imagination and promotes positive attitudes to race, culture and equal opportunities for all.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

##### **Aim**

1. To engage with a variety of art forms, to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meaning.

##### **Objectives**

- To provide an Arts curriculum of quality, range and depth
- To provide opportunities for cross-curricular learning
- To provide opportunities for pupils to learn about the Arts of diverse cultures
- To provide opportunities to develop self-esteem, confidence and maturity
- To ensure that Arts teachers have access to regular continuing professional development that refreshes their own creativity and keeps them up to date with developments in the Arts.

## **Aim**

2. To develop the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks.

## **Objective**

- To give pupils opportunities to design and complete artworks in a range of art forms

## **Aim**

3. To encourage pupils to work independently and in teams, to share Arts experiences and present art works to others

## **Objectives**

- To give all pupils an opportunity to display or exhibit work or take part in a performance/assembly at least once a year
- To give all pupils a range of opportunities to take part in arts activities, either taught on weekly bases or in blocks linked to topics
- To present arts work to parents and the community at least once a year
- To display pupils' arts work in the classrooms and around the school

## **Aim**

4. To increase active and independent involvement in cultural opportunities

## **Objective**

- To take pupils to see work exhibited and performed by professional artists/actors/musicians/dancers
- To provide opportunities for the pupils to appreciate a wide range of high-quality arts and music

## **The Curriculum**

The whole curriculum is broadly based and balanced. Creative writing, poetry, drama, art, DT, dance and music form part of both the KS1 and KS2 curriculum and are taught discretely and using cross-curricular links through core and other foundation subjects. Wherever relevant, ICT is used as part of the Arts curriculum e.g. using digital camera, wordles (word clouds), animation packages and paint programmes etc.

Teaching in the Arts is taken from a range of cultures providing knowledge and understanding.

## **Pupils**

Pupils are encouraged to share their creative achievements with others in the school and within the wider community through assemblies, photographic and artistic displays, choir

performances at school, massed choir concerts off site, including places of worship as well as through bigger drama/musical performances such as The Musical Proms.

All Year 4 pupils receive drumming instrumental lessons. All pupils have access to excellent music education resources, including different musical instruments, such as the keyboard, the glockenspiels, the hand chimes, Pbuzzes or the hand bells.

Pupils are offered opportunities in other Art activities as extra-curricular clubs at both lunchtime and after school e.g. Dance, Art, Drama, Brass and Choir.

Stokes Wood School encourages educational visits to exhibitions in art, of different cultures and to theatre productions of musical and dramatic performances.

### **Equal Opportunities**

All activities in the Arts are totally inclusive, open to both girls and boys, children with special educational needs and those who are gifted and talented in any particular art form.

### **Teachers**

All staff contribute to the learning and teaching of the Arts. Particular expertise is provided by the following:

Drama: drama club - Liz Stone incl. Y6 drama performances

Music: Milena Ciftci, Nick Hill

Dance: Street dance – Get Doing, Tricia Hardyman

Art: Rachael Harrison, Jodie Strickland and Alexia de Lisle (Mini-Makers Arts and Crafts club)

### **CPD**

The school positively promotes attendance at courses primarily specifically relevant to the priorities in the School Improvement Plan but staff may attend other courses if the budget allows.

### **Accommodation and Resources**

The school classrooms, hall, gym, music resources room and ICT suite plus the working areas are used for work in the Arts.

The school is well resourced:

- Art resources
- CD players and numerous CDs
- Musical instruments – tuned and percussion
- Music stands
- Music posters
- Piano, keyboards
- Costumes
- Staging

- Audio sound system
- Literature

### **Celebrating Achievement**

- Achievement in Art is celebrated throughout the school in our wonderful displays which are interactive where relevant and themed linking to areas of study.
- Achievements in Dance and Drama are observed through assemblies, performances at Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and celebrations of other faiths and school productions.
- Achievements in Music are observed through concerts and performances within and outside the school, both choral and instrumental. All children are rewarded with certificates and words of praise in assemblies. In addition, their achievements are shared on the school website and in the weekly newsletters.
- Where appropriate the local newspaper is informed of school performances.

### **Assessment**

Children's achievements are reported annually in their school report to parents as well as at termly parents' evenings.

Children who are gifted and talented are monitored by class teachers and their progress is discussed with parents.

Assessment is ongoing through teacher observation, marking, use of questioning and discussion.

### **Partnerships**

Stokes Wood School is supported through events and opportunities offered through Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub.

Stokes Wood School takes advantage of opportunities offered by visiting theatres, artists and musicians and by going out of school, visiting theatre performances which enhance pupils' and teachers' experiences and through active interaction with the actors/musicians wherever possible.

### **Communication of Information about pupils**

Information about a child's artistic, creative skills and interests is exchanged between colleagues using pupil record portfolio, displays, gifted and talented forms and word of mouth during Key Stage meetings and liaison meetings with Year 7 staff at secondary schools (transition meetings at end of year).

## **Communication with Governors**

Governors receive information on learning and teaching as well as achievements in the Arts through a head teacher's report, an annual lead teacher report - action plan and evaluation, website and newsletters.

## **Communication with Parents**

Information about provision of, participation in and achievements in the Arts is communicated to parents through newsletters and individual information letters.

## **Publicising of Achievements in the Arts**

Stokes Wood School is keen to publicise its achievements in all art forms.

The Art Co-ordinator keeps photographic records of all displays and activities in the school in a display folder and there is a memories scrap book for each academic year.

The prospectus and school website provide information to new parents about provision for the Arts at Stokes Wood.

Reviewed Nov 2018