

Creative Arts Policy

Aims

Roebuck Academy is fully committed to the teaching of creative arts to ensure each individual is presented with the opportunity to experience the different art forms: performing arts, visual arts, craft and design, media and multi-media, through their learning in the core and foundation subjects of the National Curriculum. A wide range of arts experiences are offered to all pupils from Early years to Key Stage 2, both as part of and in addition to the curriculum.

At Roebuck we aim for pupils to demonstrate their uniqueness and reach their full potential in all areas, providing cross curricular links in the arts, offering a range of experiences to enable pupils of all abilities to achieve high standards. We aim to enhance the confidence and self-esteem of the children by involvement in the arts. Our aim is to inspire pupils to understand and appreciate the arts and encourage full participation in the Arts in school which will extend to extra curricular activities throughout their education.

Objectives

Each pupil is to receive a broad, balanced and progressive curriculum. Every pupil is entitled to a range of high quality arts experiences.

In the Early years children are taught in a rich learning environment with creative arts being used effectively to create strong links between different areas and experiences. Stories are used as an excellent starting point, being performed through puppets and role play; songs are learnt about characters; Music is used effectively to bring a voice to the characters, create a setting for the story to be told; dance and movement are used as a means for pupils to discover how characters might behave; characters are brought to life in art work; puppets are made which are then in turn used for further story-telling, role-play, and dances.

Time allocated to creative arts in and outside the formal curriculum.

Each pupil is given the opportunity to develop skills and interests in out-of-hours learning activities in Creative Arts, this includes ballet, Art Award and Media. These opportunities for creative arts form an important part of school life. We pride ourselves on the range of activities available to our children.

Out-of-Hours learning

Two members of staff have been trained as Art Award trainers and run a weekly club. Pupils have the opportunity to work towards Discover or Explore award. Clubs provide opportunities for creative arts development. This includes clubs which focus on developing skills in art, music, multi-media, and textiles but which can combine arts in projects. In addition, children in Key Stage One and Two have the opportunity to have musical instrument lessons. Parents and artists are fully welcomed to share their skills and talents in all activities.

The range of experiences offered

Some skills in the arts require on-going development, progression is ensured through the teaching of skills and Programme of Study from the National Curriculum. Pupils are still provided with extensive opportunities to experience a variety of art forms in addition to the development of on-going skills.

Pupils experience the arts through classroom teaching, linked to the National curriculum and all children are taught a balanced and broad curriculum in the classroom. Music, Dance, Art and Drama can be taught as separate subjects or cross curricular links can be and are encouraged to be made at every opportunity. In the classroom children's interest is encouraged and skills are developed through individual and group work. Literacy can be used effectively to teach arts, literature being used as one of the starting points for the development of skills in the creative arts. The school fully values the role of each pupil in performances and projects and teaches them how these single art forms can be combined to create experiences where teaching and learning is highly motivating and inspiring. Across the year groups both live and videoed performances by artists have been used effectively as starting points for topics, illustrating how single art forms can be combined to fully support and encourage creative expression.

From experiences linked to the whole school curriculum we aim to provide all children with the experience of workshops and productions, where artists come to school to perform, illustrating the high standards which can be achieved in creative arts. All children contribute to a school performance, having experience of using a script to learn parts, learning songs, creating props and scenery, learning dances and linking all areas with an awareness of the audience to create a professional performance.

Resources are used effectively and imaginatively to aid learning. Our Media room and the usage of digital and video cameras develop the role of technology in creating and recording these experiences, so that they can be valued and appreciated by the pupils, staff, governors, parents and local community. The school is very fortunate to have ample space for dance, drama and music. At Roebuck Academy we have a stage, a large hall, a music room and outdoor stage and are well resourced for art, dance, drama and music. We make good use of the facilities in our local community particularly a local theatre group, museum, cinema and church.

The arts qualifications and expertise of staff, with commitments to further training:

All staff, teachers and teaching assistants are willing and eager to learn new skills and take opportunities for professional development with regards to the arts Curricula. The staff are given regular non-contact time to further their professional development by attending courses, to observe and monitor the teaching of arts, to talk to pupils about their work and their learning requirements, for work sampling and for maintenance of resources. Staff meetings are used effectively as a means of feeding back to other staff the strengths and areas of development for creative arts across the school. All staff actively participate in the preparation and teaching of whole school combined arts such as performances.

Plans for development

The school continually looks for areas to develop whilst recognising and celebrating the achievement of pupils in creative arts:

To develop the teaching of arts through outdoor learning environment. To audit resources, conduct pupil voice and plan for outdoor learning when planning.

- To develop the planning for cross curricular links with computing and other areas of the curriculum including creative arts to raise standards in line with targets, including through strengthening links between the arts and computing.
- To continue the professional development of staff through:
 - increasing staff knowledge and experience of different dances, including dance from other cultures.
 - Improving the music provision across the school.
- To develop pupils' basic skills of colour mixing, mark making and drawing through Art Start activities and extend this model to incorporate other Arts e.g. developing children's confidence in performance, speaking and listening, discussion skills, collaborative working and improvisation skills through Drama start.
- To widen the children's experience of dance through working with practitioners.
- To continue to develop partnership with other school's and the community by organising at least one Arts workshop in the Spring term each year for parents/carers/children.
- To develop an arts partnership with music as the focus.

Date: January 2018

Review Date: January 2020