

South Petherton Junior School Policy Statement for the Arts

Rationale

- 1 Learning through the arts is fun
- 2 We acknowledge that the children have different learning styles and believe that learning through the arts will embrace more children in the learning process
- 3 We believe that the arts are fundamental to our understanding of ourselves, our cultural inheritance and understanding and that they enrich our lives
- 4 The arts are fundamental to our understanding of other cultures
- 5 We want our children to appreciate the arts by learning through arts experiences

Involvement in art activities is one of the principle ways in which children experience the aesthetic and creative area of experience. Our school definition of the creative arts includes: the visual arts of drawing, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture; the performance arts of drama, dance and music; creative writing, which includes poetry; media and multi-media.

Aims

To achieve the following school aims:

- 1 **An entitlement to the creative and expressive arts.** Enabling our children to understand and use aesthetic, creative and imaginative ways of expressing themselves, their thoughts, ideas, emotions and beliefs and in particular develop an understanding of non-verbal areas of expression and understanding
- 2 **The development of thinking skills.** Ensuring that our children develop lively enquiring minds so that they can explore, understand and appreciate the world in which we all live
- 3 **Respect for others and the environment.** Helping our children to understand the importance of having respect for the rights of others, and in particular to tolerate other points of view, differing races, cultures and beliefs enabling them to appreciate fully the vast range of human cultural achievements and aspirations;

Objectives

To teach the full national curriculum and allow the children to:

- 1 enjoy arts experiences in many forms by being an audience and by being a participant;
- 2 recognise that they can show a personal creative response to a stimulus;
- 3 develop a sense of cultural identity and an awareness and appreciation of other cultures;
- 4 develop an understanding of the work of artists in various media working in different times and cultural contexts and including: visual artists, musicians, poets, writers, dancers, actors.

Guiding Principles for teaching and learning through the arts

The following approaches to teaching and learning to promote the children's experience of the arts within the curriculum and as extra-curricular experiences have been agreed with all governors and staff.

- 1 We will seek to ensure that monies are set aside each year to purchase the services of professional arts' workers, and ensure that all our children have the opportunity to experience works of art, including performances.
- 2 Each year all classes will work together on a Lower and Upper School production leading to a public performance of quality.
- 3 When planning activities in other subjects, each teacher will look for opportunities to identify how the arts can be used to enhance the children's experiences in other subjects. Examples include: the use of visual art [both appreciation and expression] in RE; the use of paintings and photography as texts in English; the exploration of visual art in maths investigations into pattern; the stimulus of music, poetry and visual art in promoting the children's spiritual development through collective worship.
- 4 There will be a planned progression of skills and techniques from Year 3 to Year 6 in order to ensure continuity of learning. This means that children will have an increasing Arts repertoire to draw from, to enhance creative self- expression.
- 5 Teachers' plans have a prompt for identifying spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, in order to help promote their consideration of how to incorporate the arts into each lesson as appropriate.
- 6 Teachers will identify those pupils who show talent within the arts and these will be identified for additional opportunities within the school year. Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their experiences and how these enrich their day to day arts' provision at school.
- 7 The Art Subject Leader will maintain an electronic portfolio of children's work to determine standards and to allow all pupils to share examples of excellent work.
- 8 We will celebrate pupils' learning in celebrations which often have the arts at the core eg. Harvest. We will use display boards in the classroom and Hall to share examples of outstanding practice.
- 9 We will make use of all partnerships available to use to enhance the extra-curricular provision in the arts for the children eg involvement in school-community projects; the provision of after-school and lunchtime clubs through the support of staff and parents.
- 10 We will support and promote community arts projects. eg we will pass on publicity materials; school personnel will support community initiatives in the arts eg through encouraging children's participation in local arts workshops and events.
- 11 We will provide opportunities for staff to engage in relevant professional development in order to

enhance their skills within the arts.

Review of policy

The policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Head teacher.