



## **Over-arching Arts Policy**

**“I am the way, the truth and the life.”**  
(John 14:6)

St Mary's is a Catholic Primary School.  
We place our children at the heart of all we do,  
inspired by the love, life and teachings of Jesus  
and the Catholic Christian Church.

At St Mary's we believe that the arts encompass a wide range of subject areas and disciplines including music, dance, drama, and art and design. We provide pupils the opportunity to learn about and participate in the arts to ensure a full rounded education for all pupils. We believe that the arts are a means of communication which help children to explore, understand, share and represent their physical and human environment. It is an important means, by which they can express their feelings and ideas, and to find success and share their experiences, talents and abilities through performance, displays and exhibitions.

We aim to enable children to achieve high standards through a creative and enriching curriculum.

We are passionate about developing and promoting the Arts through an enjoyable, creative and cross curricular approach. As well as focussed high quality teaching of the National Curriculum Programs of Study in classes, we enrich our children's learning and experiences of the Arts through a range of school time and after school specialist club opportunities.

We are also committed to providing opportunities for our pupils to share and perform their abilities and talents in the Arts both during a range of events in school and in the wider community. At St Mary's School, we aim to ensure that all our children enjoy, thrive, succeed and achieve their potential in the Arts.

## Aims and Objectives

Aims	Objectives
Engaging with a variety of art forms, to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide an arts curriculum of quality, range and depth</li> <li>• provide opportunities for cross-curricular work</li> <li>• provide opportunities for pupils to learn about the arts of diverse cultures</li> <li>• provide opportunities to develop self-esteem, confidence and maturity through participation in the arts</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
Developing the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give pupils opportunities to design and complete artworks in a range of art forms</li> </ul>
Encouraging pupils to work independently and in teams, to share arts experiences and present artworks to others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give all pupils an opportunity to exhibit work or take part in a performance at least once a year</li> <li>• give all pupils the opportunity to take part in at least one weekly out-of-hours arts activity</li> <li>• present arts work to parents and the community at least once a year</li> </ul>
Developing an understanding of the role of the arts in society, including as a career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• offer all pupils an opportunity to work alongside a professional artist once a year</li> <li>• offer pupils opportunities to experience with arts organisations and creative industries</li> </ul>
Increase active and independent involvement in cultural opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take pupils to see work exhibited and performed by professional artists</li> </ul>

### **Pupil's entitlement to arts education.**

We are committed to providing all children with the opportunities to engage and succeed in the Arts, regardless of background, language and or special needs through high quality, differentiated teaching. We encourage children to share and explore both their own and new diverse cultural experiences in the Arts. The school's commitment to inclusion is further detailed in our equal opportunities and inclusion policies.

**Table showing curriculum hours per arts subject for all pupils in key stage 1 and 2**

	Art and design	Dance	Drama	Music
Year1	39	18	20	18
Year 2	39	18	20	18
Year 3	44	18	22	20
Year 4	44	18	22	20
Year 5	44	18	22	20
Year 6	44	18	22	20

### **Arts teaching within the taught curriculum**

In both Key Stages the arts are taught both explicitly and through a creative cross curricular, thematic approach to learning.

This has been in place since 2008/9 and is now embedded in the school's planning.

### **Arts teaching outside the taught curriculum**

- Various after school clubs for the arts e.g. drama, dance, fine arts clubs, film and choir
- Opportunities to take part in competitions and exhibitions within the school and outside of school.
- Regular assemblies, Christmas and summer concerts, choir concerts rehearsals and performances.
- Numerous visits from artists, musicians and theatre groups to perform for or work with the children.
- Enjoying being part of our community; celebrating and performing and showing our arts talents.
- Arts week
- Arts club performance

### **Arts facilities and community links**

- A large hall
- staging
- A well resourced art cupboard with a wide variety of art resources and materials
- A wide variety of musical instruments
- Falmouth art gallery
- Hall for Cornwall
- Falmouth School
- University College Falmouth
- Kernow Education Arts Partnerships (KEAP)
- Local ASTs in the arts

### **Assessment and Reporting**

Learning outcomes are identified for each lesson. Pupils are made aware of the learning outcomes for all lessons through Can I ... learning questions. Assessment in the arts can take various forms:

Self evaluation and review  
Progression  
Observation  
Peer evaluation

Pupils' progress in the arts is reported regularly through consultation with parents, and annual reports. Assessment of the arts is monitored through assessment tracking grids which are updated termly against the national curriculum attainment targets, in drama the level descriptors have been taken from the "Drama in schools" publication produced by the Arts Council.

To be reviewed in April 2018