

# Arts Statement

## Crosshall Junior School

At Crosshall Junior School the arts are seen as a vital part of our curriculum and we believe that through their involvement in the arts, children will become more enthusiastic learners within a richer more cultural based curriculum. Crosshall Junior School has been successful at achieving the status of Arts mark Gold on three consecutive occasions.

We believe in instilling a positive attitude towards the arts that allows the children to build up skills and to express themselves freely and confidently. We aim to give children a balanced curriculum that builds upon previous work and takes into account previous achievements, therefore developing a hierarchy of skills. We want to ensure that we use first hand experiences and observations as much as possible to free children's imagination but most importantly to gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the world and range of cultures within it.

### Aims

- We aim to provide each child with an arts curriculum that is balanced and progressive in order to help children gain confidence, competency and independence and to help them understand and appreciate the arts in all its forms. In order to achieve this, children have the opportunity to explore and develop a variety of cultural creative work particularly developed through the arts
- Wherever possible the opportunity for our children to work with professional artists of art, dance and drama as we recognise how valuable the experience is for them to learn and improve their arts skills from practised professionals
- Opportunities to support the local community of the school and area
- Access to an established and rich library on a daily basis. Through Be an Author Week children meet visiting authors and illustrators, visit book fairs and visit the local public library
- Selecting from a wide variety of lunchtime and after school clubs promoting sports and healthy activities as well as taking part in residential visits to Burwell House, ROCK UK, Isle of Wight and Borreatton
- Making themselves and their opinions count through the use of our democratic Crosshall Council
- Annually studying local history and geography topics to enrich their knowledge of the area
- Visiting local places of worship, museums and talking to curators
- Contributing and displaying work centrally in our Gallery
- Participation in a Nativity play, performing any range of skills and talents through our weekly Performing Art assemblies and annual Talent Show (over three nights)
- Annually being part of an audience for a visiting play company
- Taking part in competitive sporting events within school and representing our school

Children are encouraged to develop their ideas, thus their work is challenging; they develop responses that are individualistic and personal. We promote personalised learning and encourage our children to question and respond to their work in order to develop it further.

The arts curriculum must be accessible to all irrespective of ability, gender, race or background, to enable all children to reach their full potential. When grouping children for activities this must be considered.

Policy date: Autumn 2012

Policy reviewed every four years

Review date: Autumn 2016