

CATOR PARK SCHOOL

ARTS POLICY

Introduction

Cator Park is a multi-cultural comprehensive school and our Arts Policy reflects this. We believe that all students possess creative potential and have a right to develop it. As teachers, we must recognise and nurture this potential. Students should be provided with opportunities to develop their individual creative skills, to work collaboratively with others and to work with expert arts practitioners. They should be encouraged to value their own cultures and traditions and to respect, and learn more about, those of others. While the primary responsibility for Arts education lies with teachers of Art and Design, Dance, Drama, English Literature, Media Studies and Music, we encourage all teachers to develop students' creativity and to foster cross-curricular links with Arts subjects wherever possible.

AIMS

- To give all students, regardless of ability, access to an Arts education that is creative, technological and vocational.
- To create, and sustain, an environment in which students have the confidence to experiment, question, discover and create.
- To equip students with skills and an appropriate artistic language, enabling them to attempt demanding tasks and assess their achievements.
- To develop students' critical, cultural, social and historical awareness of the concepts and skills of the Arts.
- To encourage students to share their work with others through collaboration, performance, exhibition and community links.
- To encourage cross-curricular projects, not only within the Arts, but between the Arts and other subject areas.
- To ensure that gifted and talented students are given opportunities to develop their skills.
- To foster consideration, understanding and empathy towards others, their ideas and feelings, whilst also developing students' own self-confidence.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide appropriate courses in the Arts at all Key Stages.

- To ensure that schemes of work broaden awareness of the links between different Arts disciplines, whilst also raising issues of a moral, spiritual, social and cultural nature.
- To increase opportunities for performance and display.
- To increase access to outside Arts practitioners.
- To make appropriate use of ICT at all Key Stages in all areas of the Arts.
- To ensure that students are aware of their progress and of ways to build on their success.
- To provide professional development opportunities for all Arts staff.
- To expand specialist Arts accommodation.

IMPLEMENTATION

- At KS3, all students receive Arts education through designated time in Art and Performing Arts (Dance, Drama and Music).
- At KS4, students are encouraged to choose options from the Arts as part of their balanced curriculum. Options on offer are 2D and 3D Art, Dance, Drama and Music. All students take Media Studies and English Literature as part of their English course.
- At KS5, students are offered A Level courses in Art, Dance, Drama, English Literature, Media Studies, Photography and Music.
- Students' work is celebrated throughout the school with frequent performances, exhibitions and displays.
- Opportunities are offered for lunchtime, after-school and vacation curriculum enrichment activities.
- Students are given regular opportunities to work with outside Arts practitioners.
- Students are given regular opportunities to work with students in our partner primary and secondary schools.

EVALUATION

- Annual examination reports to SLT and School Governors.
- The school's Quality Control programme.

- Governors invited to attend all Arts performances and displays.
- Regular faculty meetings.
- Faculty development plans.

STAFFING AND ACCOMMODATION

- All Arts subjects are taught by specialist staff.
- There is a team of peripatetic Music teachers.
- Outside specialists are brought in whenever possible.
- Dance Studio, two large Art rooms and a smaller room for Sixth Form work, a Drama Theatre and two specialized Drama rooms, a specialist Media Studies room, two Music rooms with three smaller practice rooms and a recording studio.

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