



## St. Patrick's R.C. Primary School



Arts		
Date	Review Date	Coordinator
September 2018	September 2019	M Ryan

### Rationale

St Patrick's is committed to providing a full, rounded and rich education to all pupils. In order to do this, the arts must have a central role in the curriculum. The teaching of art, design, dance, drama and music all have their own place as subjects, but are also planned into all aspects of school life, in and out of, school hours.

### Aims

We aim for all pupils to:

- Explore attitudes, feelings, meanings and values, through engagement with a variety of art forms.
- Develop the ability to appreciate, celebrate, create and make critical judgements about art-works.
- Develop an understanding of the role of arts in society.
- Have arts experiences, present art-works to an audience.
- Encourage pupils to work in teams and independently, sharing and developing their talents.
- Increase involvement in cultural activities.

We aim to achieve these through the following objectives:

- To provide the opportunity for each child from Reception to Year 6 to visit an arts venue at least once per year.
- To forge strong links and work with the arts department of the local Secondary School and develop partnerships with local artists and specialists in order to broaden the experiences on offer to our children.
- To plan at least four workshops led by arts professionals in school per year.
- To organise at least two visits per year from artists/arts organisations from other cultures
- To hold an Arts Week each year which allows every child to take part in art and design, dance, drama and music activities.
- To allow the children to take part in an annual celebratory community event showcasing their work and achievements in the arts.

### **Planning for our Arts provision**

All class teachers have long-term plans for each subject, based on QCA, National Framework (Drama objectives), P.E. Primary Scheme of Work and Tees Valley Music Service Scheme of Work, supplemented by the class teacher and subject leader individual planning. A cross-curricular theme/topic approach is now embedded into the curriculum at St Patrick's, particularly around Humanities/English/History. Aspects of the Arts are planned into each topic. Staff discuss planning together before a topic so that everyone is aware of progression and individual needs of children. Planning is monitored by the Subject Leader and Enjoy & Achieve Team.

### **Assessment**

Assessment for Learning is embedded across school, so that children/staff/parents can evaluate learning against objectives.

However, staff are very aware that all assessment, but particularly in the arts is not always easily, or immediately quantifiable.

Assessment is undertaken by:

- comparison against targets/objectives and comparison against attainment levels
- peer and self-evaluation
- ability to set own targets
- comparison against core-skills

### **Equal Opportunities (See also Equal Opportunities Policy)**

All pupils, regardless of ability, age, or background have equal access to all opportunities. All talents are celebrated, reflecting each child's unique dignity.

### **Extra Curricular**

All pupils have access to a wide range of Arts-based clubs at lunch-time and after school. These include guitar, arts, craft, multi-media, drama, choir, dance and recorder.

Family learning also takes place for focussed projects (e.g. School-gates, external mural and outside stage).

Gifted and Talented children are encouraged to work together to extend learning on enrichment projects (School Banner, liturgy-artworks, Eco-Papier). Clubs are run by teachers, support staff and specialists. Clubs are subsidised by the Governing Body.

Irish dancing is very popular locally and children have lessons in St Patrick's Church Hall.

### **Curriculum Provision**

A wide variety of strategies are used to teach arts, including:

- Educational visits
- Partnerships with specialists, secondary school, cluster schools
- One-off projects with visiting specialists
- Dedicated work on basic skills
- Practical work
- Cross-curriculum work
- Investigating open-ended activities
- Discussion and group work
- Teacher exposition
- All pupils have access to peripatetic musicians - strings and wind.

### **Facilities & Resources**

St Patrick's has very little surplus space, so all internal areas are utilized fully and flexibly: - classrooms, I.C.T. suite, Peace/Music room, open-areas. The large hall is used regularly for performances and clubs.

The 'Harewood Space for Sports & Arts' a nearby community-built Arts/Gymnasium centre is used regularly for clubs and performances, which Governors subsidise.

Externally, a stage has been built in the play ground for incidental and focussed drama and dance. School gardens have been designed by children and staff to include reflective/music/sensory areas. Play-houses in Early Years and KS1 are resourced for sound/sensory/musical appreciation.

There are also large murals in the KS1 playground, designed and painted by Family Groups. Beautiful School Gates were also designed by Family Groups and fabricated by a local craftsman.

### **Arts Expertise**

All staff work alongside specialist (musicians, dance and drama professionals) to learn, and refresh their skills.

There are also regular opportunities for staff to take part in arts-related Continual Professional Development.

Three teachers and the Chair of Governors (also the Arts Governor) studied art-forms at A-level or in Further Education. Two teachers have Grade 6 piano, and a further two teachers have qualifications in Drama (Guildhall School of Music and LAMDA Silver Award). The Arts Leader is studying Master of Arts in Education with specialised area of study in theoretical perspectives and practice of the Arts in education.

A locally renowned guitarist, who works regularly with a musician writing and producing liturgical music, is also a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

<b>Headteacher:</b>	M. Ryan	<b>Date:</b>	September 2018
<b>Chair of Governing Body:</b>	G. Wilson	<b>Date:</b>	September 2019