

MERE SCHOOL

Creative Arts Policy

The arts are a means by which we can develop our children's creativity and imagination. At Mere School we are committed to providing such opportunities within visual art, music, drama, dance, creative writing and across all aspects of the school curriculum.

In line with our Teaching and Learning Policy we actively work to provide an environment that will enable our children to reach their true potential within and through the arts. To do this we take account of the emotional and physical environment realising that the attitudes of adults working with the children are as important as the space and resources with which they are working.

Aims

At Mere School we aim to provide all pupils with:

- the opportunity to participate in and experience a broad and balanced range of arts activities.
- the opportunity to creatively express themselves in and through all art forms.
- the opportunity to develop a progressive range of skills and vocabulary relating to specific art forms.
- a range of arts activities that develop their social skills, confidence and self-esteem.
- arts activities that access other areas of the curriculum and different cultures.
- opportunities to foster and develop individual interests in the arts.

Curriculum

Our curriculum reflects the importance we place on the arts at Mere School. All classes have timetabled sessions to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. We are committed to providing a termly arts week involving all pupils. The week enables pupils from all year groups to work collaboratively together inspired by a thematic stimulus. We actively encourage parental/community participation in this activity.

It is our policy to develop and extend the provision of after school clubs for our children. Our school hall is available to hire for arts groups.

We are committed to providing a range of enrichment activities for our children and during each arts week we will have at least one visiting artist. We endeavour to make one arts based off-site visit every year.

The children are given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and we work in close partnership with the Wiltshire Music service.

In line with our Teaching and Learning Policy, the arts are generally planned by the class teachers. Schemes of work are formulated by the individual arts co-ordinator, who are then able to monitor progression across the year groups and address any areas or resources that need further development. Lessons and children's work are evaluated by the staff and on-going teacher assessment are made in order to be able to report back to parents. Individual arts policies are evaluated and reviewed by the co-ordinator, staff and governors.

Our termly arts weeks are planned as a whole staff, including teachers and teaching assistants.

Equal Opportunities and SEN

In line with our Equal Opportunities Policy, we will provide arts opportunities to all our children, regardless of gender, race or disability. The arts may be used to develop a child's learning in any area of the curriculum, particularly for those with SEN, including Gifted and Talented children.

Facilities and Resources

At Mere School we have good facilities used to support the arts. This includes 2 halls which are used specifically for dance, drama and music. The school is lucky to have a wide selection of musical instruments and a kiln.

Autumn term 2011

Review: Autumn term 2014