

BEREWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Arts Policy

Spring 2019

Revised by School	Spring 2019
Responsible Person	Sue Patrick (head teacher)
Responsible Committee	Full Governing Body
Ratified by GB	Thursday 14 th March 2019
Next Review	Spring 2022



BEREWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

A distinctive vision

At Berewood Primary School we see education as a journey of discovery to fire the imagination, to establish a sense of self, and to gain the confidence to take full part in the wider world.

An ethos of local partnership

Berewood Primary School and the University of Chichester Academy Trust share the belief that education has the power to transform society. Our school is deeply rooted in its locality and encourages the involvement and interest of parents and the community, recognising that strong and vibrant communities have partnership and inclusion at their heart.

THE ARTS POLICY

Introduction

Learning at Berewood Primary School should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Our approach to teaching provides a stimulating environment that fosters an excitement and enthusiasm for learning. Our goal is to provide the best educational experience possible for children at Berewood, and we encourage and assist every pupil to aim high, to try their hardest and to fulfil their potential.

Through our teaching we aim to:

- enable children to become confident, cooperative and independent learners who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.
- feed the children's hunger for learning and broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world
- encourage children to become successful and progressive learners who enjoy learning and who achieve individual success
- foster a sense of identity for children and help them feel they are a valued part of the school and wider community
- educate the children to become responsible citizens, to be tolerant and respectful of others' values and customs and to make a positive contribution to society
- provide a safe, secure and supportive environment which promotes self-esteem and self-confidence
- encourage perseverance and foster a willingness to take risks and "have a go"

We believe our role is to develop children who become excited about the Arts and who keenly participate in a wide range of arts activities and experiences. We aim to provide children with high-quality arts experiences from a range of cultures, times and traditions to further the children's skills, knowledge and understanding across the curriculum.

Our classroom environments set the climate for learning by providing vibrant and attractive displays that encourage questions, display challenging learning prompts, celebrate high-quality work and which are exciting and relevant to topics. Our classrooms are stimulating, engaging and designed to deliver high-quality learning.

The Arts

We develop creative flair and imagination through the Arts. Berewood Primary School is committed to providing opportunities within art and design, music, drama, dance and creative writing through all aspects of the curriculum. We believe in making the Arts accessible to all and do so using creativity to inspire, motivate and evaluate core learning. One example is by using drama as an entry point into history, such as a visit from a history specialist on a dress up day. Another example is in staging a medieval banquet.

We believe in linking children's learning by teaching cross-curricular topics. This approach enables learners to see the bigger picture by making connections to previous work explicit – the children appreciate why each and every lesson is important. The approach also helps develop inter-connected knowledge and skills that are crucial for lifelong learning. The children are provided with opportunities to recognise and develop key aspects of learning such as communication, enquiry, problem solving, reasoning, evaluation and empathy.

Key Aims and Objectives

Children should be:

- 1. Engaged with a variety of art forms on a regular basis in order to explore values, attitudes, feelings and meanings**
 - provide a stimulating and exciting arts curriculum of quality, range and depth that is enriched with trips, outside visitors and themed days or weeks
 - provide creative and cross-curricular topic learning
 - give opportunities to participate in and to experience a broad and balanced range of arts activities as part of a rich and exciting curriculum
 - surround children with opportunities to discover and pursue their interests and talents
 - give opportunities to develop a progressive range of skills, confidence, self-esteem and maturity through participation in the Arts
 - ensure that teachers have regular access to continuing professional development in delivering an Arts strong curriculum

- 2. Developing the ability to create, appreciate and make critical judgements about artwork**
 - give children opportunities to design and complete artwork over a range of art forms whilst creatively expressing themselves
 - lead children in focussed discussions about artworks of themselves and of others in order to develop their capacity to respond to evaluate and improve work
 - use collaborative interaction to enable children's creativity
 - expose children to the technical vocabulary of the Arts
 - assessment for learning, e.g. through the use of learning objectives, questioning, success criteria and talk partners. Providing these elements to a lesson enables children to celebrate their skills and improve their learning; they understand what they need to do and how best to achieve this

- 3. Encouraged to work both independently and in teams, to share arts experiences and to present artwork to others**
 - give children opportunities to display work or perform for other people in presentations, performances, concerts, assemblies and on the school website
 - give all pupils the chance to take part in extra-curricular Arts activities provided by staff and by outside agencies – before and after school and during off-site visits
 - give children regular opportunities to present work to parents and the community (e.g. Open Days)
 - allow children to display work, to participate in class assemblies and to perform in shows and productions for their parents and/or peers
 - create a positive atmosphere where the pupils feel safe and valued, where they enjoy being challenged and stimulated and where their efforts and achievements are displayed and highlighted in termly topic books

4. Given opportunities to develop an understanding and appreciation of the role of Arts in society, including artwork of different cultures

- take children to see original artwork exhibited in local galleries (e.g. Pallant House Art Gallery)
- experience musical/dramatic/dance performances by professional artists
- give opportunities for children to work alongside professional artists
- foster a desire in pupils for a continuing interest in the Arts and develop their visual awareness and appreciation
- plan Arts activities that access other areas of the curriculum, different cultures and those that reflect the local community

Our Curriculum Provision

Our school ethos and curriculum reflects the importance we place on the Arts

- lessons in the Arts are planned in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and National Curriculum from the EYFS through to Year 6. Further details are available in our Art and Design, Dance (found in PE), Music and Drama (found in Literacy) policies
- Physical Education is allocated at least two hours per week and dance lessons are blocked over the year as part of the PE provision
- Drama is a key element of our English and Literacy programme and is used as a powerful and creative teaching tool across the curriculum in subjects such as RE, PSHCE and History
- Music and singing is taught in classes and supported by a specialist music teacher
- all children can learn to play an instrument supported by the HCC Music Service
- Creative Writing is discreetly taught during Literacy lessons, and is also included within our cross-curriculum lessons
- all children have the opportunity to take part in a presentation or performance each year
- instrumental teaching has increased and most children now have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument during key stage 2
- we use a variety of approaches to match children's learning styles and cater for visual, auditory and kinaesthetic learners
- all children present work to their parents
- our school website is regularly updated with examples of pupils' work and includes photographic/filmed evidence of performances and achievements in the Arts

Planning, Assessment, Progression and Evaluation

- we produce medium-term overview grids that detail the coverage for each curriculum area - these are used from the EYFS to Year 6
- parents receive a curriculum overview each term that details coverage in each National Curriculum subject/EYFS area of learning
- at the end of each term teachers assess whether (and how) children have met key objectives such as Proportion or Mixing Colour Shades. Children receive oral

feedback and pointers to move them on during lessons, comments relating to the Arts may also feature on the children's end-of-term Topic Evaluation Sheet – a three-way evaluation between the child, parent and teacher

- staff evaluate lessons and children's work, with on-going teacher assessments being made that will both guide future planning and provide evidence for comments in a child's annual report to parents
- children use self-assessment techniques including "thumbs-up, thumbs-down or "in-the-middle", by ticking a list of criteria to be met, or by the "traffic light" colour-coded system to make evaluations against the learning intention and success criteria
- all parents receive an annual report which details their own child's progress and efforts
- occasional themed weeks and special days are planned by the entire staff – including teaching assistants. Each event celebrates the Arts – thus maintaining the high profile of the Arts in school. Events are evaluated afterwards.
- School Governors monitor, support and evaluate our activities in the Arts. The Governors regularly attend school concerts, productions, Open Days and conduct monitoring visits

Facilities, Resources and Equipment

Berewood Primary School has a number of facilities which are used to support and enhance the Arts

- the large school hall is used specifically for Dance, Drama, Music and Productions
- a second hall adds to this provision
- our beautiful school grounds are being developed to create places of awe and wonder and to use the environment to support the arts
- our Forest School provision facilitates the arts through, for example, creating art work from nature
- the school grounds are regarded as an "extra classroom" and are used for natural drawings, role-play, movie-making, natural sculpture, and singing sessions
- interactive whiteboards are in each classroom along with a wealth of other ICT resources and equipment
- we have centrally-held resources such as writing tools, musical instruments, paper and costumes and we also have additional resources such as paint, scissors and cameras stored in classrooms

We believe that allowing children access to high-quality resources, facilities and equipment gives them the best chance of realising their potential. To enable this, money is set aside in our school budget each year for developing our Arts provision in drama, dance, music and art.

Subject leaders for Art, Music, PE (Dance) and English (Drama and Creative Writing) provide leadership in their own subject and collaborate with other staff members for whole-school projects. All teachers meet each term to evaluate and review curricular provision including detailing coverage and use of resources.

Partnerships

We develop strong links with local artists and arts organisations. These links enrich the children's perception of the Arts and give them the opportunity to explore a range of styles and approaches. We will participate in many local Arts projects and competitions such as the annual summer performances in Waterlooville Parish Church. We are committed to providing a range of enrichment activities for our children including arts-based trips. Berewood Primary School values the contribution that is created by the partnership with parents and we encourage parents to support and participate in the children's learning. Parents are invited to share their particular talents, religion and cultural backgrounds. Parents are also invited to our regular productions.

Berewood Primary School has individual policies for Art, Music, PE (Dance) and English (Drama and Creative Writing). Individual Arts policies are evaluated and reviewed by the coordinator and staff prior to being agreed by the Governing Body.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy was reviewed by all staff and Governors in Spring 2019 as part of the three year review cycle.