



Elton Primary School & Nursery

Arts Policy

In our school, the wellbeing and education of all our children comes first

Reviewed	Spring 2025
Review	Spring 2027

Policy Statement:

We believe that through the arts we enrich the lives of all children. Every child has an entitlement to have the opportunity to access a range of high quality arts experiences, whatever their background or ability. Arts subjects stimulate creativity and imagination, enabling children to communicate what they see, feel and think about the real and imaginary world in a variety of ways and through different mediums. They engage children in visual, tactile, kinaesthetic, oral and sensory experiences to communicate their understanding and response to a range of stimuli.

Endeavouring to provide a broad, balanced and rounded education for all of our pupils, the whole staff and governing body are committed to the Arts as an integral part of the curriculum. In developing children's creativity we hope to inspire and motivate, and ensure all children receive their entitlement to high quality arts. By working to this policy all children will experience and develop knowledge and skills in a range of art forms under the broad headings of;

- Literature – poetry, fiction and drama:
- Performing Arts – music, dance, drama, story-telling:
- Visual Arts – craft, design, painting, sculpture, textiles, printmaking:
- Arts expressed through the use of multi-media – photography, digital arts.

'The arts are like your backbone. You may be able to survive without your backbone but what quality of life would you have?'

Sir Simon Rattle

Aims:

It is the aim, in teaching the arts that children will build upon their natural enjoyment in visual communication to:

- To provide entitlement to the Arts for every child whatever their background or ability
- Find enjoyment in creative art and see themselves as creative beings
- Develop skills to use a range of materials and techniques competently
- Develop an appropriate vocabulary to help them understand and discuss their own work and that of others
- To provide experiences in the Arts within the school curriculum and as additional extra-curricular opportunities
- To encourage children to participate in Arts for and with the local community
- The opportunity to raise and develop their self-esteem through class activities, performances, exhibitions and individual work
- To enhance children's appreciation of other cultures, both within this country and in different parts of the world.
- To create a love of the Arts that will develop through life.

Pupil Entitlement:

All children regardless of gender, race, culture, background and ability have an entitlement to arts education at an appropriate and challenging level. To ensure that children experience high standards of success, creative development needs to be taught with regards to children's abilities to ensure progress.

Through arts teaching all children are:

- Motivated
- Offered a range of resources to meet their needs
- Given diverse and creative teaching styles

Time in the Curriculum:

At Elton Primary we provide a minimum of 10% curriculum time for teaching in art, design, dance, music and drama to give all pupils a broad programme. We use the arts to develop a creative approach to learning in other curriculum areas and ICT is used to enhance the delivery of the arts curriculum.

Scheme of Work:

Art and design, DT, music, dance and drama are taught both discretely and through other areas of our creative curriculum such as: Literacy, Science, R.E., P.S.C.H.E, History, I.C.T. and Design Technology.

Our school's creative curriculum has a different focus each term; science, geography and history. The arts are strategically planned to complement each of these focused subjects to create a thematic learning approach. The school uses the National Curriculum for all areas of the arts and our scheme of work is Kapow for Art, DT and Music. We use Complete PE for drama.

The foundation stage uses the EYFS to provide opportunities for the arts.

Planning the Arts:

All class teachers follow long term plans for each subject. These generate more detailed medium term plans with weekly learning objectives which show progression within the unit and building from the previous unit. National Curriculum documents provide a basic structure and class teachers, with advice from subject co-ordinators, supplement this. At Elton class teachers are actively encouraged to always consider how to enrich the learning opportunity for pupils in other curriculum areas through the arts. Teachers will provide this enrichment through the use of ICT, visits, immersion days, workshops in school by visiting practitioners and specialist teachers for music and peripatetic music lessons.

Partnerships:

We believe the value of partnerships with Arts organisations demonstrate excellence and raise awareness of opportunities and expectations in the Arts. The links benefit:

- Curriculum development
- Community links
- Staff development
- Children's creative achievements
- The profile of the Arts

Through effective communication and liaison, we ensure effective partnerships covering a range of Art forms including those of other cultures, venues and activities. Our partnerships offer a range of learning opportunities and we are always looking for new ones. Children are able to experience these through:

- Gallery visits
- Visiting artists and musicians
- Wider Opportunities Scheme for Music
- Talented staff, parents and governors within the school
- Plays, Theatre company visits & Workshops
- Whole school talent show
- Weekly school choir with performances at Christmas and Summer
- Whole school singing assembly weekly

Management and Organisation:

Elton Primary has an Art/DT subject leader who work with staff, parents, governors and artists and who are involved with cluster and Borough events within the community.

The subject leaders are responsible for:

- Developing and updating the schemes of work for all stages
- Supporting teachers and subject leaders with cross-curricular links
- Overseeing and developing resources

- Monitoring and evaluating through classroom observation, planning, work scrutiny and interviewing children
- Keeping staff up to date through staff meetings, INSET, courses in the Arts and alerting them to CPD opportunities
- Keeping governors informed and working with designated Arts governor
- Working with visiting artists and other partners
- Planning for future developments through annual action plans and targets

Monitoring and Evaluating:

Each subject leader for each aspect of the Arts monitors planning, collects evidence of work and performs work scrutiny, observes teaching and interviews pupils. This is in line with the School Improvement Plan and School Self Evaluation Process.

Extra-curricular Arts Activities:

We aim to use a variety of staff expertise to offer a wide range of arts based clubs at lunch time and after school. These often include: Dance, Choir, Digital Media and music lessons.

Resources:

The school has a wide range of materials for the arts which are kept in clearly labelled areas within classrooms and resource rooms. These include:

- Tools for clay and pottery
- Variety of tools and material for painting and drawing
- Tools and materials for printing
- Selections of card and paper
- iPads
- Variety of prints and artefacts
- A wide range of books on the Arts

Health and Safety:

Please see the specific subject risk assessment

All members of staff are aware of health and safety requirements within school and act accordingly.

- There is appropriate storage of tools and equipment
- Children are required to change for dance-no jewellery should be worn, except studs
- Use of materials, tools and techniques in accordance with health and safety requirements
- Portable electrical equipment is tested annually.