



**LONDON FIELDS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



# London Fields Arts Policy

## **School Mission Statement**

Achievement, progress, challenge, inspiration and enjoyment are at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to providing children with the very best education to ensure that each child reaches their maximum potential and develops a lasting love of learning and sense of curiosity in the world around them.

We know that children who feel respected and proud of themselves will learn best. Both achievement and perseverance are celebrated and recognised.

We aim to deliver excellent education by providing a stimulating, rich and relevant curriculum which balances the rigorous teaching of core skills and knowledge with creative and imaginative opportunities.

We believe in our role in shaping future communities and aim to ensure our children leave here as happy, successful individuals – sociable, thoughtful, confident, and equipped with the skills they need to do the best they can in their immediate environment and the wider world.

Our expectations of the children and the adults within the school are high. We foster a welcoming, safe, disciplined environment where all children, families and all other members of our school community are treated with tolerance, kindness and respect.

### **What are the arts?**

The arts at London Fields are a fundamental portion of our curriculum which contribute to our provision of developing the children as well-balanced individuals, growing up as citizens of the wider world. We group the arts into the following categories:

- Art (painting, drawing, printing, sculpting, textiles, design, woodwork)
- Drama (acting, presentation and public speaking skills, performance reading)
- Dance
- Music (listening, appraising, improvising, composing, reading basic notation, aural skills)
- Creative Writing (across all genres and writing types)

All of the above are included individually within the curriculum but also used effectively on a cross-curricular basis in RE, PSHE, Topic and Literacy.

## **How do the arts contribute towards a child's education? Why are the arts important to LF?**

London Fields is proud to be a creative school, in which the talents of each child are taken into consideration and consistently nurtured as they progress up the school. We aim to provide children with a range of inclusive opportunities to discover and develop their artistic competencies, enrich their childhood experience, cultivate their cultural understanding and establish the foundations of essential life skills. The arts make a crucial contribution to ensuring that our curriculum continues to be outstanding and provides our pupils with a range of life experiences. The arts allow children to access their learning through different media and hence be better learners within and through the arts. We believe that they offer opportunities for the children to explore, express and communicate their feelings whilst gaining experiences of the wider world. As such, wherever possible we use the arts to enable access to all subjects. By the time they leave London Fields, children have been equipped with a broad knowledge and understanding as well as having an appreciation of a breadth of artistic forms. Where possible we also seek to involve and engage parents & carers in specific creative projects.

### **Curriculum Provision**

Arts are represented extremely favourably in our curriculum with weekly music / drama lessons, boosted by performance lessons in literacy in KS2 and weekly singing assemblies for both key stages. Dance is taught school-wide in the autumn term where each year group learns a dance type which links closely to their topic. We also hold a termly art week which follows an annual rotation so that over the course of their schooling career, children will have vast experience in painting and drawing skills as well as textiles, sculpting, printing and woodwork. These lessons are boosted by visits from external performers, visits to galleries or theatres and targeted workshops.

### **Extra-curricular Arts**

We have a range of arts based extra curricular activities on offer run by staff and external specialists, from ukulele to violin, from drama to choir. Sometimes the number of children who can participate in clubs or music lessons is restricted but we always offer the activity to **every** child in the year group. Selection for these clubs is always fair. Peripatetic music lessons are on offer from Reception up.

### **What are our Aims and Objectives in Arts Education?**

<b>Aims</b>	<b>Objectives</b>
<p>To provide a broad, balanced and inspiring arts curriculum which balances creativity and imagination with the development of new skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a minimum of 15% of curriculum time dedicated to the arts including art and design, dance, drama and music at Key Stages 1 and 2.</li> <li>• Provide a quality arts curriculum with range and depth allowing for clear progression.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for cross-curricular work.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for children to develop self-esteem, confidence and a sense of critique through education in the arts.</li> <li>• Ensure that teachers have opportunities to develop their own arts knowledge and skills through relevant training and keep them up to date with developments in arts teaching.</li> <li>• Ensure School Improvement Plan always includes targets for the arts.</li> </ul>
<p>To provide every child and young person with opportunity to be inspired by the arts through high quality arts experiences and resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrich interest in the arts by providing an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities for all age groups and across all art forms.</li> <li>• Provide children/young people with opportunities to experience the work of professional artists through visits to arts organisations, workshops with artists and other partnerships at least once a term.</li> <li>• Ensure teachers have access to top quality resources to facilitate their delivery of arts subjects and that these are accessible for all children, including those with SEN.</li> <li>• Maintain and develop links with</li> </ul>

	community organisations which strengthen arts provision and opportunity within the school for staff and pupils alike.
To enhance children's appreciation of different cultures through the arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give pupils an arts education that develops the historical and cultural understanding of key art forms.</li> <li>• Draw on myriad of cultures represented within the school to enhance artistic experiences.</li> </ul>
To nurture artistic talent and develop children's transferable life skills that arise from a successful arts education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for our children to influence the arts provision within the school through class discussion, pupil survey and feedback from School Council.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for young people to create, develop and market performance events such as class assemblies and school productions.</li> <li>• Offer opportunities for children to take Arts based qualifications such as LAMDA and ABRSM qualifications.</li> </ul>
To celebrate the artistic achievements of each child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creativity in all art forms is celebrated by the whole school and wider community through performances, galleries, displays, assemblies, the school newspaper and school website.</li> </ul>

### **How do we monitor and evaluate the impact of our arts education?**

Planning for each arts subject is completed by the relevant subject leads and plans for progression across the key stages. Subject leaders conduct learning

walk to ensure that planning is adhered to and to evaluate the impact that the teaching is having upon the children's education. The results of these are then fed back to the staff via the Staff Update. Staff have also completed a competency based survey, from which staff meetings and appropriate CPD are planned to further the impact upon our pupils. We have regular public displays of our work, from galleries to celebration assemblies to videos on the website, demonstrating the quality of the provision, which children can then proudly show to their adults.

Targets for the arts are also included in the School Improvement Plan.

The art policy is evaluated and reviewed by the individual arts co-ordinators and senior management and agreed by governors.

### **Equal Opportunities and Special Educational Needs**

Opportunities to participate in arts activities are provided for all pupils, regardless of gender, race, disability or, in the case of external visits and visitors to the school, financial considerations. The arts are used to develop a pupil's learning in any area of the curriculum, including for those with Special Educational Needs and those pupils identified as being Gifted and Talented.

### **Facilities and resources**

Children at London Fields benefit from extensive resourcing to support teaching in the arts and a significant proportion of funds is spent each year on developing this. Facilities include:

- State-of-the-art sound and lighting system with curtained stage area and a range of microphone types to suit occasion.
- Extensive instrumental collection including wide variety of percussion from different countries, both tuned and untuned. Guitars are also available to hire.
- Laptops and software to facilitate computer programming and animation.
- Art equipment for producing watercolour, pastel, pencil, mixed media and paint works, as well as sewing, clay work, modroc and armature sculptures, woodwork and a range of printing styles.