



CURRICULUM POLICIES | Lawdale Junior School

Creative Arts Policy

Lawdale Junior School

March 2024

Mission Statement

At Lawdale, we believe that the creative arts are a means to freely express your imagination and personal creativity. This exploration will enhance and enrich a child's learning and their school experience. As a whole school, we are committed to providing **all** children with the opportunity to access the creative arts as part of their everyday school life.

At Lawdale, the creative arts are an integrated and fundamental part of the curriculum. We define the arts as music, dance, drama, art & design and literature. ICT in various forms may also be included.

We are a Right Respecting School and this policy supports the following articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child

Article 13: (Freedom of expression): Every child has the right to share information in any way they choose, including by talking, drawing or writing as long as it does not harm others.

Article 28: (Right to education): Every child has the right to a primary education, which should be free. They should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education of which they are capable.

Article 29: (Goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 31: (Leisure, play and culture): Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities.

We aim to provide all pupils with:

- A broad and balanced creative arts curriculum.
- The opportunity to progress their skills and creativity through the arts.
- The chance to learn and experience different cultures through the creative arts and become responsible global/rights respecting citizens.
- The opportunity to discover and pursue their interests and talents.
- The opportunity to celebrate the creative arts both in and out of school.

Objectives:

- Ensure the creative arts are being planned and implemented across the curriculum.
- Give all children opportunities to design and complete artwork in a range of art forms.
- Give all children the opportunity to take part in out of hours creative arts activities.
- Display and celebrate children's work and performance achievements.
- Give all children the opportunity to experience and participate in work performed/created by professional artists.
- To provide ongoing support to members of staff through insets and the experience of working alongside professional artists in school.
- Ensure teachers and children have access to creative resources and equipment.
- To allow children to make excellent progress in the arts.

Equal Opportunities The access and provision of creative arts will be made equal to all pupils. We provide arts opportunities to all our children regardless of race, gender, disability and the ability to

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pay. We encourage all children to participate and perform in order to build their self-esteem and have a positive experience of the arts.

Entitlement We ensure all children are receiving their entitlement to the arts by the following:

Planning: Class teachers can access topic plans or adapt various schemes of work for music, art and drama. Specialist support is provided in addition to this. If needed, extra support for children to access the arts will be planned for by the class teacher. A cross-curricular approach to planning is encouraged where ever possible throughout half termly topics. Assessment will be teacher, peer and self-led, enabling children to evaluate and reflect on their own achievements and those of others. Drama is planned throughout curriculum subjects with a key focus in English.

Art: There will be a termly art focus on a particular skill (e.g. printing, sculpture, textiles, drawing or painting). Art is linked to curriculum topics when there is a natural link. Plans are accessible for all year groups and resources available for these lessons. Teachers are encouraged to plan educational trips to venues such as art galleries to enhance art provision and study a wide variety of artists from different culture and periods in history.

Drama: Drama is a key element of our English curriculum and is used as a powerful teaching tool across the curriculum. Lawdale provides opportunities to participate in a variety of drama projects throughout the year both in and out of school. The specialist teacher will liaise with class teachers to provide sessions that enhance the year group's topic or focus on a particular area of literature (e.g., Shakespeare). Clubs are available for children to extend their drama skills. There is also a Year 3 (LKS2) Christmas performance and a Year 6 (UKS2) summer performance annually.

Music: Music is taught through specialist music teachers on a weekly basis. Children develop composition skills through using software, such as GarageBand and learn a musical instrument in years 3-5. They are given the opportunity to continue learning an instrument of choice by joining lunchtime clubs in Year 6. They are also given opportunities to perform outside of school and take part in group performances such as Young Voices. All children are given the opportunity to take part in music club/choir and other music projects with external companies. Lawdale is a member of Music Mark which *'believes in the fundamental right to experience a high-quality music education for all children and young people.'*

Dance: Dance is taught as part of our Physical Education programme alongside gymnastics by our specialist PE teacher and a consultant dance teacher in Year 3.

Partnerships

Partnerships are actively encouraged. The school has a wide variety of productive partnerships with local arts groups, including Rich Mix and Tower Voices. Through these partnerships, children are able to take part in film projects and external concerts (e.g. Young Voices at the O2). The school also works closely with the LA music providers, THAMES to provide instrumental tuition.

Roles and Responsibilities:

The art & design lead and music & drama lead are appointed to monitor and support the implementation of the policy in the school. A supporting team is also in place to assist the project leaders in creative endeavours. The main aim is to raise the profile of the creative arts and provide access to all by following the aims and objectives stated in the policy.