

CREATIVE ARTS POLICY

Creative Arts Policy

BeyondAutism Schools' Vision

Our vision is to help young people with Autism lead fuller lives, and to offer them a life enhancing education that enables them to reach their full potential at school, at home and in their communities.

BeyondAutism Schools' aims

We will do this through:

- Consistently high expectations and achievements for every individual.
- High quality, inspirational and innovative teaching and learning.
- A safe, secure, caring and enjoyable environment in which to work, learn, thrive and grow towards independence.
- Inspirational and accountable leadership at all levels.
- A personalised curriculum.
- An ambitious drive to be the leading Autism education provider in the UK and beyond.

Curriculum Statement

BeyondAutism Schools' curriculum has been devised by us to meet the needs of our pupils, aged 4-19 years. It has communication and interaction at its core, and the curriculum is personalised to each individual pupil, and is broad and balanced. We want to focus on raising standards, whilst ensuring that learning remains relevant and engaging.

Fundamental British Values

At BeyondAutism Schools, we aim to ensure that our school ethos, curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning reflect and promote British values as defined by the Government in the 2011 Prevent Strategy;

The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We recognise the multicultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role that schools play in promoting these values. We pride ourselves on our inclusivity and we teach all pupils to understand, appreciate, and respect diversity so that they may effectively relate to others.

By ensuring that we actively promote and reinforce British Values, BeyondAutism Schools will help to prepare pupils for the diverse and dynamic community in which they will live and work.

Creative Arts Policy

We are committed to providing all our pupils with a motivating and inspiring curriculum that aims to enable them to engage in other cultures and new experiences. Arts, such as art & design, music, dance or movement are very motivating and rewarding for our pupils. Our curriculum enables all pupils to engage creatively and exploratorily with the arts.

The Art and Design Curriculum

The Art curriculum at BeyondAutism Schools is designed to engage, inspire and provide opportunities for pupils to express themselves creatively. The curriculum has four key aims in which activities, projects and work is based upon:

- Enabling pupils to produce creative work, exploring ideas, materials and recording experiences
- Have opportunities to work in both 2D and 3D
- Use art created by known artists to influence their work
- Explore art in other cultures, linked with special events and other whole school activities.

Pupils have formal weekly small group art lessons. These follow half termly themes which are designed to enable pupils to experience new mediums and activities, as well as building on previous learning and experiences. Examples of half termly themes include: craft, paint, colours, moulding, printing and materials in our environment. From these half-termly themes a medium-term plan is created, within this: a weekly activity is devised, pupils' expectations and outcomes are made clear and resources needed are highlighted. A record of pupils' work is collected, electronic copies are saved online and original copies are either displayed at school or sent home.

The Music, Drama and Dance Curriculum

Music, singing and signing are an essential part of the school day, enabling pupils and staff to practice their communication style. As a signing community, having regular access to singing and signing is very important to the development of our pupils' communication. Regular whole class sessions are timetabled throughout the week, including morning registration and celebrations. Weekly clubs/ small group activities are used across the schools in order to allow pupils the opportunity to have new experiences. Clubs/ small group activities change dependent on pupils interests, activities are rotated and come back throughout the academic year. Examples of clubs/ small group activities that include music, dance and drama clubs, such as rap music club, bhangra dancing and cartoon club .

Singing and music are incorporated in all weekly assemblies, introducing new music in line with the weekly assembly theme and practicing old songs, utilising pupil voice to make choices regarding the music wherever possible.

Annual performances, such as the Winter Production, enable the whole school to come together and celebrate through a musical, drama and dance performance.

Drama, acting, and role play are incorporated within teaching, especially being linked with books, reading and preferred fictional characters.

Last review: November 2021

Next review date: November 2024

Review group: Full Governing Body