



Caversham Preparatory School

Policies and Procedures

136 Enrichment – The Arts Policy

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The Artsmark

We are an Artsmark School. The award covers creative writing, dance, drama, music and art.

Art

- Art is celebrated in many forms. Whether it is copying the style of famous painters or developing a style of their own, children's art is displayed proudly around the school.
- All the children have a personal sketchbook that they keep as a record of achievement and progress throughout the school.
- Our children enter art competitions such as the Tilehurst Eistedfodd and Binfield Heath Art Competitions. Their 'computer art' as well as more conventional craft, painting, pastels and charcoal have won a number of awards and cups over the past few years.
- Art clubs such as Art Attack and Crazy Craft are popular.
- The Arts Group is attended by children with artistic talent who wish to build a portfolio for possible scholarship entry.
- Visits from artists and visiting art teachers all help to develop a strong art curriculum in the School.
- Visits to art galleries and museums inspire art work in the school. For example, making clay 'Greek' urns after a visit to the Reading Museum.
- In 2012 one of our children won an Art Scholarship to Queen Anne's School and in 2016 one of our children was awarded an Art Scholarship to Leighton Park School and The Abbey School.

Music

- Music is important and celebrated whenever possible in our school.
- We have a qualified music teacher who teaches class music covering: singing, notation, improvisation, music appreciation and percussion.
- All Year 2 children learn to play the recorder as part of their class curriculum.
- The school promotes music further through choir, music and recorder clubs.
- All children get a chance to perform at Breakfast Concerts, Achievement Assemblies, Christingle Services, Nativity Plays, Harvest Festivals, Spring Concerts, the Annual Prize Giving and Carol singing for charity.
- A well-equipped music room supports the music teaching.
- Piano, keyboard, recorder, clarinet and flute and guitar are all offered as an individual lesson.
- Children take progressive grade examinations in music.
- The older children are taking part in the Reading School's Music Festival at the Hexagon Theatre this year.
- The children join outside singing groups for example, Apollo 5 at Queen Anne's School and 'Sing Up' at The Abbey School.
- In 2011 one of our children won a Music Scholarship to Hemdean House School.



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Drama

- Improvisation, Nativity plays and End of Term performances have all become part of an extended curriculum that the children love. We have a number of teachers with an enthusiasm for drama that is infectious.
- The Drama Club is also a fun way to try out new techniques.
- Over the last few years we have enjoyed Junior Plays such as Charlotte’s Web, Cinderella-Rockafella, Treasure Island and Robin Hood.
- The Year 6 children study Shakespeare and a puppet show depicting a scene from Romeo and Juliet brings the writings of the Bard to life.
- Dramatisation of Dickens ‘Bleak House’ supports higher level writing skills.
- Visits from drama companies such as ‘Perform!’ help to develop the children’s drama skills and support cross-curricular links.
- Visits to watch ‘live’ theatre are encouraged. For example, the annual ‘Whole School’ trip to the Pantomime.
- Themed days such as a World War II Day or Victorian Children Day help the children to ‘get in character’.
- We have 3 specialist Lamda teachers teaching individual prose, poetry and performance skills.
- Children take progressive grade examinations in Lamda with the majority winning ‘Distinction passes’.
- Presently we have a Performing Arts Scholar.
- In 2013 our Performing Arts Scholar won a Performing Arts Scholarship to Queen Anne’s School
- In 2016, 2017 and 2018 pupils won Drama Scholarships to Reddam School, The Abbey School and Queen Anne’s School respectively.
- The Shakespeare Club performed ‘Macbeth’, Easter 2018 to an enthusiastic audience.
- Creative Writing
- Creative Narrative and Poetry Writing is a strength of our curriculum from Foundation to Year 6.
- Foundation children start each week with a well-known and loved text which develops their Emergent Writing of which they are very proud.
- We run a Creative Writing Club for our budding authors.
- Poetry writing is part of each classes’ curriculum and even in the Reception Class independent poetry writing can be seen, often illustrated by images downloaded from the internet.
- In 2012, ten children won a Creative Writing Competition and their work was published in a book called ‘Mini Sagas’. We have a copy of this in the school library.
- In 2011 we won the Champion Writer’s Cup in the Tilehurst Eisteddfod.
- The Annual Book Week promotes activities that celebrate story and poetry writing.
- Children write stories for pleasure and children talk about becoming authors and writing books when they are older.



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Dance

- Dance is part of our PE Curriculum and all children have the chance to develop their skills.
- Clubs such as Street Dance, Hip-Hop or Bhangra are well supported.
- Choreography for School Plays and Nativity Plays further develop the children's skills.
- Visits from dance companies all help to develop the children's dance skills and support cross-curricular links for example, to celebrate Diwali.
- Themed days such as a Native American Indian Day where children dance around a totem pole combine drama and dance through cross-curricular links.
- Children attend classes in ballet, tap, modern and ballroom out of School and perform their dances at School Concerts.



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Policy Administration

Linked Policies

This policy also needs to be in line with other school policies and therefore should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

None

Quoted Legislation and Guidance

None

Review Schedule

This policy is subject to 3 yearly reviews unless circumstances require an earlier review.

Update and Review Log

Updated/ Reviewed By	Date	Notes
A Lawson	Sep 2022	Updated Formatting