

Arts Policy

March 2017

Office use

Published: March 2017	Next review: September 2019	Statutory/non: Statutory	Lead: Heather Widdup
Associated documents:			
Links to:			





Part 1 - Diverse Academies Learning Partnership Arts Policy

We, in the Diverse Academies Learning Partnership, believe that learning takes place across all aspects of a child's experience; through their academy life both in and out of lessons, as well as in all of the enrichment that fills the spaces in between.

Vision

Our vision is to support and nourish all aspects of a child's artistic growth and development during their time with us, so that they may enter the world with a breadth and range of artistic experiences in order that they can obtain a broad and rich view of the world and their place within it.

Through our arts provision across DALP; we aim to provide exciting, unique, dynamic yet inclusive artistic and cultural experiences for all of our students. Moreover, these experiences enable our students to discuss, debate and reflect upon these experiences; using their newly developing knowledge to enhance and enrich their own experience both in and outside the academy.

DALP will facilitate meetings, CPD opportunities and shared practice in order to offer opportunities for children from all DALP academies to learn and experience new contexts new environments and new challenges. This will include a show-reel of best arts practice and opportunity which includes all DALP academies; celebrating our artistic achievements culminating in two annual events; The Creative Arts Festival and The Arts Showcase.

The DALP Events

The Creative Arts Festival offers performance experience to our most disadvantaged students; those who may never have experienced live arts before. This is a chance for them to rehearse and perform on a stage to a live audience, with the twin goals of building confidence and self-esteem.

The Arts Showcase is a celebration of achievement across DALP of our committed arts students; showcasing work across the arts from showcases, clubs, curriculum-based class work as well as work from our able and talented students.

Principles of Learning and Teaching in the Arts

DALP believes The Arts are important because:

- They instigate creativity and imagination through visual, auditory and kinaesthetic experiences
- They provide sensory experiences which enable students to experience the world in a different way
- They instil self-esteem and confidence in all students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities as well as those who may be most disadvantaged
- Through the Arts; students learn how to deconstruct, analyse, challenge and question; making sense of the world around them
- They enable students to share and challenge ideas and emotions; developing a sense of empathy and understanding
- They open a window to the outside world; providing opportunities for students to see and experience beyond their own social, personal, ethnic and cultural sphere

Aims and Objectives

DALP Students will:

- Develop an appreciation and enjoyment of The Arts
- Experience The Arts from a variety of different times, countries, ethnicities and cultures
- Dissect, discuss and reflect upon a range of arts
- Develop their artistic skills both in areas of choice as well as areas of challenge
- Create artistic works with a clear understanding of their own concepts and intentions
- Use artistic and creative skills to enhance learning and enjoyment in other curriculum areas
- Have the opportunity to perform creativity and work collaboratively

DALP: Outward Facing - Professional Development, Partnerships and Community

DALP will continue to develop partnerships with The Mighty Creatives (TMC), Cultural Education Partnerships, local and regional arts organisations, practitioners and academies/schools. It will develop relationships and connections with FE and HEIs and order to instigate aspiration across DALP.

It is a DALP Tight Principle for All DALP academies to apply for and achieve Arts Mark within the first two years of joining the Trust.

DALP Arts Mark Platinum academies will always be outward facing; providing opportunities for CPD of staff and artistic events for students. Best practice will always be shared.

Resources & Sustainable Investment

- Individual academy budgets account for funding for the arts within the academy curriculum
- Funding for all DALP events will come from contributions from the individual academy budgets; additional costs will be met through ticket or associated school-generated merchandise sales
- Academies may raise additional money to support the cost of events through fund raising events and charitable donations
- The Curriculum Enrichment lead will undertake periodic audits of resources that can be accessed and shared by DALP
- TMC will signpost funding opportunities for arts projects and/or events that are open for DALP to bid for
- CPD training will be delivered by Arts Mark Platinum academies to ensure the highest quality of arts provision is available to the students

Part 2 - Arts Policy for:



Definition of 'The Arts'

'The Arts' is defined as Art, Music, Drama and Dance within our academy curriculum. Each of these subject areas ensures rigorous, detailed and creative planning to offer the most inspiring and engaging curriculum is delivered to our students at Retford Oaks Academy.

Mission Statement

At Retford Oaks Academy we believe that all of our students, regardless of gender, background, ethnicity or academic aspiration should have exposure to the arts to enrich their personal, social and cultural education.

We are committed to ensuring that our arts provision offers the breadth and depth to fully engage all of our students at some level, enabling creativity to flourish.

We are passionate about delivering high quality teaching to our students and as such invest time and energy into ensuring that the curriculum is of the highest standard, maintaining strong expectations for arts' results and qualifications.

Beyond the curriculum, we offer a range of opportunities for our students to grow in confidence and skill including access to clubs, concerts and showcases which enable students to perform to live audiences in a range of contexts and venues.

We believe that the arts nurture our students' personal growth, aspirations and belief in themselves, their talents and their abilities. The arts nourish social skills and qualities enabling students to become good listeners, negotiators and team players. Arts activities allow for expression of thought and exchange of ideas, all of which hold true to Retford Oaks Academy's principles.

Aims

At Retford Oaks Academy our arts provision aims to:

- Provide an inspiring and exciting arts curriculum through a range of arts subjects as well as none arts specialist subjects
- Offer a means of expression and a springboard for tolerance and empathy
- Promote independent learning, motivation and self-development
- Develop students' understanding and appreciation of the diverse cultures and ethnicities
- Encourage students to analyse, deconstruct and evaluate
- Provide students with artistic skills and techniques to realise and communicate their intentions and concepts

Objectives

To achieve these aims, we will:

- Ensure children of every age, gender, ethnicity, religion, social background and ability have equal access to the arts curriculum
- Draw on the artistic expertise of staff members and people in the wider community to teach and deepen understanding of different art forms
- Ensure children are given the opportunities to share and celebrate their achievements
- Ensure staff members are continually developing their own artistic skills and understanding

Health and Safety

Care is taken to ensure that all instruments and equipment is handled carefully and under supervision.

Able and Talented

Although Retford Oaks Academy offers equal opportunities for all, we also ensure that our Gifted and Talented students have access to opportunities which support the growth of their talents. Our Gifted and Talented groups are therefore offered additional, lunch time classes and opportunities to nurture these talents.

Arts Provision outside the Curriculum

We continually seek to develop our extended arts provision which includes:

- Visiting Poets and Authors
- Peripatetic Music Teachers
- Visiting Musicians/Bands/Theatre Groups
- Providing visits to Museums, Galleries, Theatre Productions and Musical Concerts
- Participation in Drama, Dance and Music Performances both on site and within DALP
- Links with other Primary Schools through the Dance Festival, Workshops and Cabaret.



Signed by Academy Director:

Date: 17/03/17



Signed by Chair of Governors: _

Date: 17/03/17

Produced March 2017

To be reviewed September 2019