



THE CRYPT SCHOOL ARTS POLICY

The Crypt School believes in the educational value of the arts to the individual and the community.

It believes that :

- All pupils should have access to high-quality arts experiences, whatever their background or ability
- Arts provision does not just rely on the enthusiasm of individuals but is a clear part of school planning and ethos.
- The Arts are seen as part of the strategic planning of the school which is embedded in the School Development Plan.
- The Arts at The Crypt School include Visual Art, Drama, Music, English Literature at A Level, and self-expression through technology in Media Studies and Music Technology at A Level. Through these art forms students will create, appreciate, and make critical judgements in order to take part in and understand the cultures in which they operate.
- The School values the Arts as enabling academic progression, developing creativity and enabling students to build self-discipline and work in teams thus encouraging the individual to feel a sense of achievement and value within the community.
- The School believes that students should see how the Arts are important in the larger community and therefore can be encouraged to follow a career in the Arts, to be lifelong amateur participants and to be informed and engaged audience members for professional and amateur work.
- Students will be encouraged and enabled by curricular and extra-curricular activities to work alongside professional practitioners in order to foster a developing engagement with the arts throughout their lives.

At Key Stage 3 students receive 3 hours of Arts provision a week – one each in Visual Art, Drama and Music.

Key Stage 4 has options for Visual Art, Drama and Music and, although it is not compulsory for students to take a creative subject, all students are encouraged to include one as part of a full programme of educational study. Students are able to take all three subjects at GCSE if they wish.

Key Stage 5 has options for Art, Music, Music Technology, Theatre Studies, Media Studies and English Literature.

Objectives

1. Provide a high quality Arts curriculum in each discrete arts subject provided by subject specialists.
2. Provide opportunities for students to learn about arts of diverse cultures – evidence in departmental Schemes of Work.
3. Provide opportunities to develop creativity, self-esteem confidence and maturity through participation in the Arts.
4. Ensure that arts teachers have access to regular, continuing professional development that refreshes and enriches their own creativity and keeps them up to date with development in the arts.
5. Give students opportunities to compose, write and create in all art forms and enable opportunities for these to be displayed and performed.
6. Through parents' evenings, regular school concerts, productions and gallery displays, students' work will be seen and valued by the wider community.
7. Through various art clubs, drama clubs and music activities students have the opportunity to pursue areas of expertise and interest in addition to their normal, timetabled lessons.
8. Each year Visual Art students work alongside visiting professionals and Music students work alongside peripatetic staff in school concerts.
9. Each year students visit museums, exhibitions and performances to see the work of practitioners outside the school.
10. Students are given access to dance through extra-curricular activities and through workshops with visiting professionals in every year of Key Stage 3.

All these objectives will be realised in detail through policies in each department handbook. The Heads of Department will realise the detail and are responsible to their Senior Leadership Team Line Manager for the successful implementation of the policy. These objectives will be reviewed as part of the school's yearly departmental self-review cycle and half-termly line management meetings.

Reviewed : December 2011

Approved : January 2012

Next review : December 2014