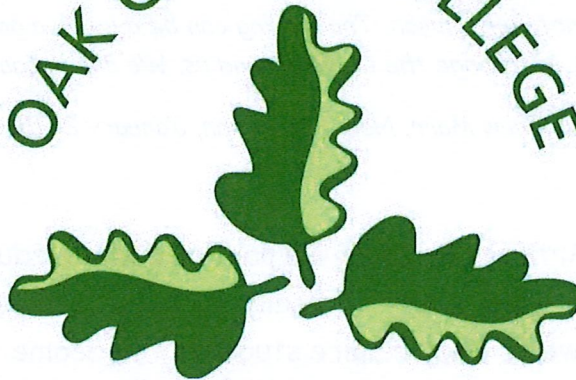


OAK GROVE COLLEGE



Everyone matters, every day counts

Arts Policy

Policy created: July 2018

Policy first adopted:

Signed Chair of Committee:

R.M. Coon

8.11.18.

Re-adopted & signed:

Consultations:

Arts team July 2018 (E Armstrong)

SLT Sept 2018

Oak Grove College Arts Policy

It is the urge to create that makes us human

It's making. We are the making animal. Unless we make - that is, in some small way, change the world around us - we are not fully human. The making can be a book, a garden, cooked food... but what we do is, we change the world around us. We are because we make.

Andrew Marr, New Statesman, January 2015

We believe that The Arts are an essential part of a whole education. They provide our students with the opportunity to really succeed, achieve and feel proud of themselves and their work. They inspire students to become the best they can be in all areas of their learning through developing self-esteem, identity and wellbeing. The Arts allow Oak Grove artists, actors, musicians and theatre technicians to explore their ideas, feelings and fears and their creativity.

Transition

The Performing Arts are a popular and successful progression route for students. Many students have progressed to Level Three courses at local colleges. Two former students have gone on to gain bachelor's degrees in Theatre, two students have jobs in technical theatre, and one former student runs his own music promotion business. We will provide our students with the right skills and experience to enable this success to continue and this underpins our curriculum and our approach.

Curriculum

Our Avatar, Da Vinci and Marvel curriculum offers a student-centred, personalised education with an ethos of independent, active learning in Art and Design, Dance, Drama, Music, Media and Photography. Collaboration is key to our curriculum which starts from where our students' endeavours, interests and talents lie, and builds upon these to fully engage students in the learning process. We believe that effective learning in the arts happens when students are immersed in practical leaning activities that use the same tools, skills and approaches as professionals in the creative industries. Students may pursue individual projects of interest rather than the class project and will be guided and facilitated by the arts staff.

Celebration of Work

Learning in the arts occurs through the format of project based activities which involve students designing, planning and carrying out work that result in publicly exhibited output. These vary from Shakespeare for Schools Festival, Rock Challenge, Music for Youth and an Art Exhibition held in a public venue. Where possible recordings of performances and art work are shared on YouTube and Twitter.

Inclusion

The arts play a very important role promoting inclusion at Oak Grove. Our carol concert and production are major events which bring the whole college together. We seek to work collaboratively across the college to promote the importance of arts for students of all abilities and to promote cohesion. We continue to look for ways for students across the college to work together.

Learning Environment

Our learning environment offers a real-world space promoting authentic, opportunities in the Arts. Our rooms aim to replicate a professional environment that inspires our students. We seek to make use of the outdoor environment through art and sculpture and in performance.

Assessment

The arts approach to assessment is different from many other areas of the college and reflects Dylan Williams thinking that '...the assessment system should be designed to assess the school's curriculum rather than having to design the curriculum to fit the school's assessment system.'

Verbal feedback is used extensively and students know how to improve. We aim towards 'beautiful work' and students regularly share work which is discussed against the project success criteria.

'There is no intrinsic value in recording formative assessment; what matters is that it is acted on' *Final Report of the Commission on Assessment Without Levels, 2015*

In KS3 students are given a baseline assessment in each subject in Year 7 and identified as either Foundation, Intermediate, Strong or Advanced within each arts subject. We would expect the following progress:

	End of KS3 Arts Award	End of KS4 subject specific qualifications
Foundation	Discover (pre-Entry)	Entry Level
Intermediate	Explore (Entry 3)	Level 1
Strong	Explore (Entry 3)	Level 1 or 2
Advanced	Explore (Entry 3)	Level 2

Students are given verbal summative feedback in Music and Drama involving careful unpicking of the creative process and the finished piece. In Arts & Design feedback will occur verbally but may also include annotations of work and written comments.

Accreditation

All Year 9 students in Da Vinci, Marvel and Avatar will take their Arts Award Explore (Entry 3) at the end of Key Stage 3. Arts Award is offered to Koa students in 6th Form with the aim that all our students will leave Oak Grove with accreditation in the arts.

We offer a range of accreditation at Key Stage 4 and in 6th Form which change according to student needs and strengths. In the last few years these have included GCSE Art, GCSE Music, NCFE Level 1 Performing Arts, RSL Level 1&2 Music Practitioners Certificate, BTec Award in Photography.

The accreditation our students will gain in Summer 2018:

Open Awards Level 1 Award in Employment Skills for the Creative Industries

RSL Certificate in Musical Theatre (Entry 3 - Level 2)

Drake Music Compose and Perform Award (Entry 3 - Level 2)

Oak Grove College is currently working towards Artsmark Platinum.