

South Wirral High School Arts Policy.

Mission Statement

At South Wirral High School the arts is an integral part of our broad and balanced curriculum. The arts encourages a greater understanding of the world in which we live and the teaching of cultural diversity helps to stimulate creativity and imagination; allowing for freedom of expression through all the art forms.

Art provides a gateway for learning for all our students through the mediums of Visual Art, Dance, Drama and Music, whatever their barriers to learning may be. As a school we believe the rich and varied arts curriculum, supported by community links, is vital in developing a student's self-confidence, self-esteem, motivation and sense of purpose and well-being.

All aspects of the arts play a huge role in enhancing a student's quality of life both in school and in the wider community.

How our Mission Statement is achieved.

- Arts is central to the whole ethos of the school , the participation in a variety of art forms, cross – curricular initiatives and community involvement has helped to raise achievement, self-esteem, attendance, morale and as a result there is a tremendous mutual respect between staff and students.
- All students are provided with a rich and broad arts curriculum. Students entitlement :
At key stage 3 Art, Drama, and Music are taught two hours a week. Dance is taught 2 hours a week in years 7 and 8 and taught in an option block at year 9.

At key stage 4 the following options are available; - Art, Digital Photography, Music, Dance and Drama.

At key stage 5 students can study Art, Music, Dance , Drama and Performing Arts at A' level or B Tech depending on the cohort.

- There is an extensive extra-curricular programme, in all the art forms, which is accessible to all students, across all key stages.

The Pledges

We have identified 10 pledges that we want to offer **all our students** to help them develop culturally and socially throughout their time at South Wirral. We have called them 'Ten over 5 pledges' **ten pledges to be achieved over 5 years.**

1. Take part in a residential experience.
2. Have the opportunity to perform or present to an audience in or out of school or represent the school in an activity.
3. Attend a 'professional performance.'
4. Have the opportunity to meet a person/people who can widen our knowledge of the world we live in.
5. Take part in an international experience.
6. Visit and engage with a national or local park, gallery, museum, heritage site, library or archive.
7. Visit a place of worship or spiritual significance in order to gain an understanding of the different cultures within our own society.
8. Take part in Work Related Learning.
9. Be involved in a club, society or organisation in or out of school.
10. Actively contribute to charity work or community based project in or out of school.

6th Form Pledges '6 for VI'

1. Performing/representing in school/Community
2. Additional recognised qualification
3. Work Related Learning
4. Pastoral/Subject specific trips/activities
5. Extra responsibility/activities in/outside of VI Form
6. Charity Work

The Pledges have been created through Student Voice and fully embrace the arts policy mission statement.