



**Artsmark**  
AWARDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

# Statement of Commitment

Application paperwork 1 of 2.

<b>Name of school/education setting</b>	<b>Wormholt Park Primary School 2052660</b>
<b>DfE number</b>	<b>2 0 5 / 2 6 6 0</b>

## Support

We are here if you need us.

Download our guidance on how to complete your Statement of Commitment:

<https://www.artsmark.org.uk/about/artsmark-award-document-downloads>

Get in touch with your Bridge organisation, who offer support throughout your Artsmark journey. Their details can be found online: <https://www.artsmark.org.uk/Bridge>



## Context – up to 150 words

Describe the context of your school or education setting (for example your phase of education, establishment type, location, number on roll and so on).

*(Enter your answer here)*

Wormholt Park Primary School is a two-form entry Community School within the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. It is currently undersubscribed but has a good reputation in the community and with the Local Authority. It has 373 children currently on role with a high percentage of children on Pupil Premium (around 54%), children with English as an Additional Language (64%) and children with Special Educational Needs (38%). The school has achieved the Silver Eco-Schools Award, the Gold Star Accreditation from TfL and the Silver Skills Builder Award. We are one of the first schools in London to achieve the EQualities award and we are the only school within Hammersmith and Fulham to have achieved the Gold UNICEF Rights Respecting Award. Ofsted judged the school as 'Good' in February 2017.



**Question 1** – up to 500 words

How do arts and culture currently play a role within your setting's strategic values?

*(Enter your answer here)*

As a UNICEF Rights Respecting school, our ethos of valuing and respecting each other, our community and the world around us is at the heart of all that we do for our pupils. We believe that it is every pupils' right to a safe and nurturing learning environment that encourages curiosity and enthusiasm for education, which will set them up with the skills and knowledge they need to achieve their dreams in the future.

A part of this pupil-centred approach is through our teaching of the creative arts.

Pupils are exposed to a wide range of artists and music styles from a young age, as we are very lucky to have a designated Art Studio and full-time teacher who works directly with pupils from Key Stage 2, and supports EYFS and Key Stage 1 with ideas and resources in the creative arts. Our pupils are given opportunities to explore, communicate and express themselves imaginatively through different artistic styles and develop their skills over time as artists, musicians, designers and craft makers. Whether it be through researching artists, watching live shows, exploring historical art forms, or presenting and evaluating their ideas, children experience a cross-curricular approach so that the Creative Arts is given a context. Many units taught have links to History and Geography topics so that pupils can apply the knowledge and skills taught in class and learn new ones they can implement in their future work.

In every year group, children are encouraged to experiment within the creative arts. They learn to freely talk about their work and are encouraged to use specific vocabulary to discuss both the work of their peers and of famous artists or musicians. Children are challenged to apply their prior knowledge and think critically and creatively when producing new work.

We also provide numerous opportunities for pupils to express themselves outside of lesson times through a range of after school clubs and free time for pupils to independently work on their own projects with support and guidance from the art teacher once a week. After school, children in Key Stage 1 and 2 are able to join a choir club (who perform to the school, families and the local community) or learn how to play the guitar, ukulele or violins through specialist tutors. Many of our older pupils have taken part in large ensemble singing events (such as 'Digital Christmas Festival' alongside 23 other schools within the Music Hub) and have sung in front of the public for special occasions. Many of our pupils are inspired to take their learning home and share their art with family and friends. This is then

celebrated in school through sharing assemblies, competitions and in school exhibitions and performances.



**Question 2** – up to 500 words

How and why will your Artsmark journey contribute to the priorities in your strategic improvement plan?

With the challenges of the last few years, the need to bring new experiences to our pupils is ever increasing. Our aim is to provide opportunities for our pupils to discover and develop their creative skills through a range of arts subjects and topics, alongside improving the academic skills and mental wellbeing through the arts.

A large focus of our school development plan is to increase the reading and writing skills and knowledge of our pupils. Many arrive to us with little to no English or have difficulty accessing these subjects due to their educational or emotional needs, and we believe that a quality arts education can help support us with that. By creating an arts rich curriculum fuelled by art, music, dance and drama, this could have a positive impact on writing outcomes as our pupils will have more to draw from their imaginations and an increased resilience and confidence to take creative risks with their work.

Alongside improving the attainment within reading and writing, we believe that the arts can generate an excitement for these subjects by increasing our pupils' voices. We are currently in the process of creating a new library space in our school, and our intention is to use our pupils' creative skills to decide how it should look, what should be included in it, and have the chance to be authors within our library too. This is so that they have a greater ownership of the space, therefore increasing their engagement and love of reading and writing through creative expression.

Another large part of our school development plan is to better support our pupils' mental health and wellbeing. Many of our pupils already have said that they enjoy the arts as it gives them a chance to 'be calm', 'express themselves' and 'feel proud of themselves', so we know that increasing the focus across the school on the creative arts can only further help and support our pupil's emotional wellbeing, confidence and resilience. The arts give pupils the chance to explore and develop a better understanding of the world and themselves within it and so giving it a greater focus can help provide pupils with the experience and knowledge they need to tackle any future problems they may face. We are committed to the arts as a means of providing a positive and inclusive experience for all and know that our increased focus through our ArtsMark journey will have a positive impact on our children's mental health as well as having a positive effect on pupils' attainment across the curriculum.



### **Question 3 – up to 500 words**

Looking at the Artsmark Award criteria, where does your setting currently have strengths and where would you like to develop?

***(Enter your answer here)***

#### **1. Values and ethos**

Our school has a strong positive, inclusive ethos that celebrates curiosity and values artistic expression.

#### **2. Leadership**

Our head teacher and leadership team are committed to improving our arts provision, as we want to develop it to become a true strength of our school. They understand that the arts is key to improving our pupil's cultural capital and beginning our ArtsMark journey is our school's commitment to this.

#### **3. Children and Young People engagement**

The children in our school really enjoy the creative arts and we celebrate their work through displays, on our website and through class performances and exhibitions. We want to develop this further by increasing pupil voice in the creative arts by having an Arts Council.

#### **4. Curriculum design**

Whilst our current curriculum design is strong with our Key Stage 2 classes, this is in part thanks to having a specialist art and design teacher ensuring the curriculum is to a high standard. Outside of this, we need to improve our creative arts provision taught by classroom teachers so that the curriculum has more music, drama, dance and other creative arts links where possible.

#### **5. Range of offer**

At our school, we feel we currently offer a variety of high quality creative arts provisions such as:

- Art, DT and Music taught and led by our full-time Art Design and Music Lead Teacher
- Whole class guitar tuition lessons lead by a tutor from our local music hub for Year 4
- Music tuition lessons for guitar, ukulele and violin
- Nativities, class assemblies, and end of year performances
- ICT club
- Choir
- Art competitions both local and national
- Multi-sports clubs

We are however always looking to expand and improve this further. Outside school creative arts experiences need to be signposted more to our pupils as well.

#### **6. CPD**

Our school actively encourages staff to seek our CPD opportunities and our Arts lead is starting to run staff training sessions on increasing creativity during lessons. This is an

area we would like to commit more to however so that staff confidence in teaching the arts increases.

## 7. Partnerships

We have some strong links with a few local organisations, including our local music hub and schools. The music hub in particular have recognised our efforts to stay linked with them during the pandemic and chose us for a special funded brass band opportunity where 15 of our year 5 pupils will be learning and playing their instruments in the Royal Albert Hall.

## 8. Equality and diversity

Equality and diversity is at the heart of our school's ethos and we have been recognised as such with the EQualities award and the UNICEF Rights Respecting award. Our curriculum does reflect this, but it is something I am continuing to develop within our creative arts planning and the opportunities which give our pupils.



### Question 4 – up to 500 words

What are the goals and ambitions for your Artsmark journey and what steps will you take to achieve these?

*(Enter your answer here)*

We want our ArtsMark journey to provide inclusive and diverse real-world experiences that actively involve our pupils' voices and leave positive lasting effects on the children we teach and our wider school community.

Part of this journey will involve upskilling our teaching staff so that all feel happy, enthused and more confident to include the creative arts more where possible within our whole school curriculum. This will in turn broaden our pupil's knowledge and understanding of the world around them and give them experiences they may not have had before. Our Arts lead will be leading this effort by:

- Providing in-house training for any arts-based skills our teaching staff do not feel confident in
- Supporting class teachers with their planning and delivery of a high-quality arts education
- Reaching out to other schools and organisations that can support us with these endeavours.

Another aim for this journey is to ensure pupils in our school feel like they have ownership of their learning environment and their arts education. A part of this will be creating and using a pupil-run Arts Council, which will help with creating and running school events, as well as speaking with different classes about the kinds of creative arts they want to learn more about.

To ensure this is run effectively our Arts lead will:

- Research effectively run Arts Councils in different schools

- Reach out to other schools within the borough that run Arts Councils to make better links
- Work with our Arts Council to identify the key priorities they want to improve their arts education in school.

We also aim to develop and enhance the range of arts opportunities for our children to be in the arts both through the curriculum, through after school clubs and through whole school opportunities. We will aim to do this by:

- Continuing to build on our links with our local music hub
- Reaching out to our local secondary schools to support with transition through the arts
- Signpost extra-curricular clubs, events and competitions our pupils can take part in outside of school.
- Make links with other schools within the ArtsMark journey to support and develop each other.



**Question 5** – up to 500 words

What support will you need and what resources will you commit to achieve your goals and ambitions?

*(Enter your answer here)*

To provide support to our teaching staff, our Arts lead will be leading in-house training and creating extra resources to ensure all staff feel confident in teaching the arts. She will also be supporting year groups and teachers on a 1-to-1 basis where needed.

As our budgets are tight, we will be using support from A New Direction to help with linking to outside agencies and finding CPD opportunities, as well as pointing us towards any potential funding prospects. We have already signed up with the ArtsMark Creative Week in July and applied for a bursary for a potential exciting art project based on their information, and will be contacting them to support us in linking to other local schools or organisations that wish to help us.

Professional development time will be given to our ArtsMark lead so that they can support our staff with developing and enhancing our creative arts provision. Our SLT have also committed to review our arts mark progress at least every 6 months so that we can action any areas that need further support or development during our ArtsMark journey.



**Question 6** – up to 500 words

How will you know you have achieved your goals and ambitions? What will success look like and how will you evidence it in your Statement of Impact?

*(Enter your answer here)*

We will know that our ArtsMark journey has been successful and further embedded into our whole-school ethos through a variety of different ways.

Firstly, our pupils will feel positive and proud to be at a school that values creativity and the creative arts. They will feel that their voices are both heard and celebrated in a curriculum that is presented on our website, through our exhibitions and across a variety of subjects – and not just through Art and Music lessons. Our pupils will take an active role in developing our curriculum that links to their own interests, cultures and values and therefore have a greater ownership over their work and activities. This will be evidenced through quotes from our pupils and parents.

Secondly, our teachers will feel more confident and enthused to link the creative arts into their lessons where possible and will be able to state the impact it has on the school as a whole – not just through our pupil's academic progress but also by their overall mental and social wellbeing. As our ArtsMark journey will be supporting areas of our school's development plan, our staff will also see more progression in our pupils' reading and creative writing too. This will be evident in our planning, through staff confidence levels, on our website, as well as through our pupils' being able to link their creative arts experiences to their learning of the world around them.

Finally, our school environment will reflect our school's commitment to the arts through its displays of work both in and outside of classrooms. Our children will take pride seeing their work on display and seeing photos and written reports of the experiences they have had, and our parents and families will be excited to see their child's work on display during our exhibitions and performances.

### Approval

Click the box to agree to the statements and enter the name and date this was approved.

I confirm that I have read, approved and endorsed the Statement of Commitment and agree to oversee and support the Artsmark journey

I agree to the Artsmark Award Terms and Conditions

(These are available online at [artsmark.org.uk/terms-and-conditions](https://artsmark.org.uk/terms-and-conditions))

**Headteacher Name: Anika Hargie**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

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**Chair of Governors Name: Mahua Nandi**

**Date: 11/2/2022**