LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



CULTURAL ENTITLEMENT POLICY

Updated: September 2017 Review Date: September 2019

The Entitlement

Our vision is that each child attending Lionel Walden Primary School, whatever their circumstances, will have opportunities to experience a range of cultural activities. This vision sits within the broader County Council commitment to raising the profile of the cultural agenda for people of all ages.

Why Promote Culture for Children and Young People?

The enjoyment and sense of achievement provided by cultural experiences are important in their own right and can have a lasting influence on children and young people. They provide an opportunity for individuals to find their strengths as well as new leisure interests. They offer ways for children to understand the diverse and complex world around them and learn skills of leadership and team working. Such experiences can also boost self-esteem and help children become more confident and successful learners. We also recognize the potential of culture for improving community life.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has identified 'Children and Young People' as one of its five strategic priorities in working towards improving the quality of life for all through cultural and sporting activities. Cambridgeshire Culture takes account of this priority and many other national initiatives.

What Do We Mean By Culture?

Culture plays a pivotal role in the fabric of our society, but definitions and interpretations of culture vary. Lionel Walden Primary School takes a broad view to encompass traditional and popular performing and visual arts and literature, as well as wider-reaching aspects of heritage, history and socio-cultural belonging.

More specifically we are adopting the following interpretation of culture as:-

a combination of all the processes involved in creating, presenting, understanding and learning about seven activity areas:

- the visual arts (including 2 and 3D work, public art, graphic design, textiles, fashion, ceramics, wood and stone carving, metalwork and photography);
- the performing arts (including dance, drama, musical performance, physical theatre, storytelling, street arts, carnival arts, festivals, puppeteers, performance poetry and circus);
- *film and media* (including the making, recording and editing of animations, games, websites, film and music);
- > *literature* (including libraries, books and press, poetry and prose);

- sport and health (including Olympic and non-Olympic sports, outdoor education, rural and urban trails and walks, cycle networks and the rights of way network);
- heritage (including museums and archives, the built and natural heritage/environment, landscapes, coast, parks and gardens);
- tourism (including food and drink, attractions, tourism initiatives, cultural tourism).

Our Key Principles

Lionel Walden Primary School will adhere to the following key principles in all aspects of its support for cultural activities:-

- > All cultural activities should be of the highest quality;
- > A broad range of cultural experiences should be promoted;
- > There should be equitable and inclusive access to opportunities for children;
- Activities should promote intercultural understanding and community cohesion by offering an insight into, and opportunities for sharing in, the cultural lives of different groups and communities;
- Collaboration will be proactively promoted with a range of other partners: the Local Authority, community-based and professional providers of cultural activities.

Our vision is for a broad entitlement to cultural activities for all children who attend our school

These will be offered in both formal and informal settings and by a range of providers. However, we wish there to be a 'guarantee' to a minimum entitlement of cultural activities for all children at Lionel Walden Primary School. This will hopefully lead to children developing an enthusiasm for at least one cultural activity, which they can develop both within and beyond school.

The Guarantee

We therefore commit to providing a guarantee to cultural activities for **all** children in our school. This guarantee includes the opportunity for children to:-

- > see a professional standard live performance of music, dance or drama;
- participate in a performance, whether as a performer, organizer or technical support;
- > see an exhibition of high quality visual art;
- > engage with library and/or archive services;
- > visit a cultural centre, for example, a museum or heritage site;
- > participate in a sporting or outdoor pursuits event;

- > participate in a residential outdoor or environmental education experience;
- work with, and learn from, an expert practitioner in the fields of music, story telling, poetry, the visual arts, dance, drama or sport.

Activities might form part of the school curriculum or be offered outside the school day.