

## An introduction to the Creative Arts Department

The Creative Arts department at Westborough is a dynamic, friendly and mutually-supportive department which aims to make a difference to children's lives, regardless of their starting point, by providing the highest possible learning experience. At the core of our success, we have highly effective, talented practitioners who inspire our students to be their very best. We not only instil a climate of creativity and love of learning within the department, but we also inspire others to be equally dynamic through a strong commitment to tailoring personalised professional development.

A key feature of the department's work and ethos is its commitment to constant improvement; staff enthusiastically contribute and receive ideas about how to improve our teaching and our students' learning. Students make good progress in Creative Arts which is a testament to the department's vision and drive for excellence.

The Creative Arts department consists of four subject disciplines within the creative industry. Through passion and a commitment to the Arts, pupils experience engaging, relevant and challenging programmes of study in art and design, hospitality and catering, drama and music. In addition to student achievement, we aim for students to develop key skills and strategies in the four key concepts underpinning all Creative Arts subjects, which are knowledge and understanding, interpretative skills, application of skills and analysis and evaluation. We feel it is essential to provide an enjoyable stimulating learning environment to develop an appreciation of the subject, both in and outside of the classroom. Not only as a team do we devise schemes of work to provide high quality teaching and learning, but we create lesson plans and sequences of activities which enhance both enrichment and creativity. Sequences of learning within Creative Arts are interesting, stimulating and enthuse our students to exceed all expectations. Creative Arts has a dynamic extra-curricular enrichment programme building on the cultural capital of our pupils and exposing them to the creative industry.

Due a strong ethos of collaborative teaching and learning, we pride ourselves not only on our clear and shared values and expectations, but also on good relationships between staff and students. We are an experienced, highly committed team supporting each other through a range of strategies including: mentoring, shared resources, collaborative planning, departmental inset, sharing good practice, team teaching, paired observations and internal standardising. New members instantly feel like they belong as they are greeted with a friendly supportive environment which also encourages them to take on new challenging opportunities to further their career.

We look forward to welcoming you to our team.