

# Artsmark

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St Benedict's Primary School

2023-2024

## What is Artsmark?

Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England.

Artsmark's flexible framework is designed to help embed arts, culture and creativity across the whole curriculum. It celebrates our commitment to cultural education.

It helps to develop and celebrate commitment to arts and cultural education for all children and young people.

The framework helps embed arts, culture and creativity to support a broad and ambitious curriculum, strengthen pupil voice and support personal progression.

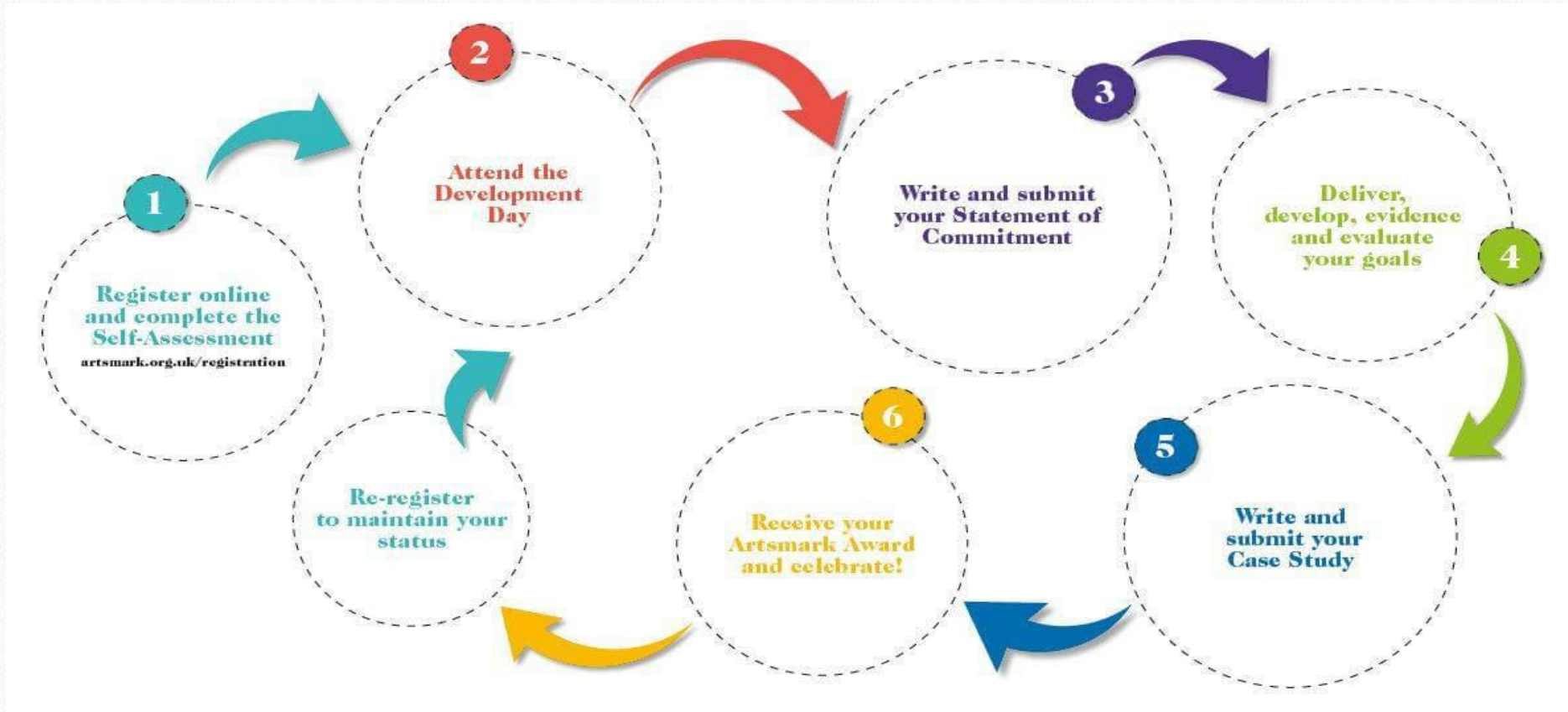


## Why Artsmark?

- Support the health and wellbeing of pupils with arts, culture and creativity
- Ensure every young person can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education
- Engage, motivate and upskill teaching staff using Artsmark's CPD and whole school collaboration
- Access professional support, advice and resources to strengthen arts provision



## The Artsmark Process



### How does Artsmark work?

- Artsmark is flexible to the needs of individual settings and can fit around your planning cycles.
- Register online, complete the Artsmark e-learning module and Self-Assessment using the Artsmark Framework
- Two members of staff, including a member of SLT, attend Artsmark Development Training
- **Write and submit your Statement of Commitment**
- Deliver, develop and evaluate your goals
- Write and submit your **Statement of Impact**
- Receive your Artsmark Award and start celebrating!

Most settings take up to two years to complete their Artsmark journey.



# Artsmark Awards

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Artsmark is awarded at three levels; Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Overview	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Quality of provision	Emergent	Established	Stretching
Pedagogy	Develop expertise	Develop best practice	Opinion former
Impact	Tangible results	Measurable effects	Making a difference

Arts Council England's Quality Principles aim to raise the standard of creative and cultural work being produced by, with, and for children and young people. This set of principles outline ways of working that should be embedded in the planning, delivery and evaluation of our Artsmark journey and will support us to deliver high-quality experiences for children.

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### **The seven Quality Principles**

- 1: Striving for excellence and innovation – Is there a real commitment to achieving excellence by, with and for children and young people?
2. Being authentic – Is it authentic; is it the real thing?
3. Being exciting, inspiring and engaging – Are children and young people excited, engaged and inspired?
4. Ensuring a positive and inclusive experience – Does it ensure a positive and inclusive experience?
5. Actively involving children and young people – Are children and young people actively involved?
6. Enabling personal progression – Do children and young people progress and know where to go next?
7. Developing belonging and ownership – Do children and young people feel they belong, and it belongs to them?

# Your Artsmark journey

Your Artsmark journey is about establishing, embedding and evaluating the impact of arts and cultural provision within your setting, aligning your goals to the Artsmark criteria.

Artsmark criteria at a glance:

1	Promote arts and culture in your values and ethos
2	Demonstrate leadership
3	Engage children and young people
4	Embed a diverse curriculum
5	Establish a wide ranging cultural offer
6	Offer staff development opportunities
7	Develop valuable partnerships
8	Ensure equality and diversity for all



## 1. Promote culture and arts in your values and ethos.

### Vision

**Our commitment to arts and culture** will be evident in our curriculum, environment and shared language; our holistic approach to the arts will ensure that they are valued for wellbeing, enjoyment and as careers opportunities. Communicating our ambitions with all stakeholders will be key to ensuring that they are owned by all.

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Communicating our commitment to arts and culture** will require time with governors and staff through an effective communication strategy. Regular staff meeting time is dedicated to the arts and the next one will be to share our Artsmark vision. In January, we have planned an inset day to look at the vision for collaboration with other schools. Time at our next governance day is also committed to sharing our Artsmark vision and plans.

### Intended impact and evidence

Arts and culture will be fully embedded into our **school's ethos and philosophy**. Success will be evident in the form of pupils having the opportunity to experience arts and developing their self-knowledge, self-esteem, confidence, initiative and understanding of how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely. The arts and culture will be routinely celebrated through the curriculum, events, assemblies, communication and within the school environment. Staff voice will demonstrate a shared understanding and value of the arts, for their own sake and for the benefits on pupils' well-being and personal development. Pupil voice will evidence the importance of the arts within school life and beyond: they will identify artists that inspire them.



## **2. Embed diverse curriculum.**

### Vision

**We will improve diversity and equitable access** by monitoring the inclusiveness of our current arts provision and formulating plans to address any areas of development. In planning our arts provision, we will be more explicit and intentional in our aim to promote and celebrate one another's cultures.

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Monitoring and improving the diversity and equitable access to arts** will be explored through the use of our Edukey system. It will take time to set up this system and to produce actionable data. Further conversations with Birmingham Arts School will ensure a diverse range of arts industries are accessed.

### Intended impact and evidence

**We will shine as a 'School of Sanctuary', using the arts as a vehicle for inclusion and celebrating cultural diversity.** Our data will demonstrate where deficiencies in our arts provision have been addressed. We will also begin to monitor incidences of discrimination and the reduction in this, although it may take time for the impact to be seen.



### **3. Demonstrate leadership.**

#### Vision

**We will demonstrate committed and ambitious leadership at all levels.** At our next Governance Day, the arts will be an area of focus: our Statement of Commitment will be reviewed and plans to review and monitor arts provision will be formulated. The leadership of arts will be developed amongst staff, with the establishment of an Artsmark team.

#### How we will achieve our goals?

Developing **committed and ambitious leadership at all levels will** require the support of SLT and a nominated governor. The school has committed to cover the costs of a TLR for this academic year to set up the leadership for the Artsmark process. In the long term, for the Artsmark process to be sustainable, we need both strategic leadership and a team approach.

#### Intended impact and evidence

3 **Our ambitious and dynamic leadership** will be evidenced in our 'Subject Reviews'. These clear, systematic methods for evaluating impact will provide evidence for our statement of impact. Governance meetings will demonstrate an increase in the level of challenge and support being dedicated to the arts.



## 4. Ensure equality and diversity for all.

### Vision

**Our children will develop ownership of our Artsmark journey** so that it is authentic and tailored to our needs. We will establish an arts branch within our School Council, supported by SLT and other arts leaders. Pupil voice will be used to ensure the arts opportunities are enjoyable and add to the wellbeing and personal development of pupils.

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Pupil voice in the Artsmark journey** will be through dedicated School Council time. Leaders will be dedicated to making this happen. It would also be beneficial for us to explore how this level of pupil leadership impacts in other settings and the Artsmark network will be helpful for this.

### Intended impact and evidence

**Our pupil voice from school council will demonstrate a 'you said, we did' approach.** Minutes of meetings will provide us with a clear starting point and chronological narrative of progress made towards goals set. Pupil voice will demonstrate that they are actively involved in the arts process, in planning, participating and evaluating the arts.



## 5. Engage children and young people.

### Vision

**We will develop creative children who excel in the arts.** We need to embed our new curriculum for art and music and to allow staff time and opportunities to enhance their understanding of what quality in the arts curriculum looks like. We will review it systematically to ensure that there are strong outcomes.

### How we will achieve our goals?

We recognise that it will take time for **our curriculum will be embedded so pupils excel in arts.** Specific time will be allocated to review arts subject areas, including observing lessons, talking to staff and pupils and reviewing the standard of work produced. This systematic review will take place with the support of the headteacher.

### Intended impact and evidence

Our **curriculum design and delivery** will result in pupils being more successful in the arts curricula. The evidence of this will be documented through our 'Subject Reviews'. Pupil voice will demonstrate an increase in confidence and enjoyment.



## 6. Establish a wide range of cultural offer.

### Vision

**We will embed and develop our arts and cultural entitlement by** increasing the number and breadth of performance opportunities, both for pupils to perform in and for them to view and evaluate. We will build upon recent successes to create further opportunities, such as ‘Ambition Shows’ (where children perform and display their own creative pieces) and a ‘Festival of Culture’ (performances aimed at celebrating our diversity).

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Increasing the breadth and number of performance opportunities** will take organisation, financial commitments and the support of all stakeholders. We are committing to increasing the scope of our current opportunities this year and then planning further for the following year, with the support of Restore the Music, Sampad, Birmingham Arts School and BEP. Our headteacher is committed to organising finances to ensure there is a budget for performing arts. We also need to improve our family and community engagement as adults need to be committed to attending performances and supporting their children.

### Intended impact and evidence

Our **improved cultural entitlement** will be showcased through social media and our website, involving our pupils in this process. By recording and documenting our participation in arts projects and gathering pupil voice we will develop evidence to support the impact.



## 7. Offer staff development opportunities.

### Vision

**We will empower and enthuse staff to engage more deeply with arts, culture and creativity.** Through sharing the Artsmark vision and plans, staff will have a greater understanding of our common goal and commitment to achieving excellence. We will continue to develop our links with outside agencies to provide further training opportunities. With time, we will monitor the impact that this training is having on staff confidence and expertise, and ultimately, outcomes for pupils.

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Empowering and enthusing staff** can only be achieved through ambitious and creative leadership and a supportive governing board. We have dedicated regular CPD time to the arts and now need to implement the delivery of this, either through existing networks or access to digital resources.

### Intended impact and evidence

An **empowered and enthusiastic** staff team, will encourage other staff to engage more deeply with arts, culture and creativity. Staff voice and feedback from lessons, will demonstrate that staff are more confident and knowledgeable in teaching the arts.



## 8. Develop valuable partnerships.

### Vision

**Our collaborations will contribute greatly to quality arts and cultural education and experiences.** Our collaborations with creative organisations are in their infancy and need time to embed and for the impact to be evident. Furthermore, our planned collaborative projects with other schools will strengthen the sense of community and support wider community engagement. Our overarching aim is to achieve a life-long love for learning and enjoyment of arts and culture.

### How we will achieve our goals?

**Developing collaborations** is going to be one of our greatest sources of support during the Artsmark process. Some of these costs we are already paying for directly out of our curriculum budget, but we will need to also explore other forms of funding. For example, Restore the Music have supplied £10,000 of instruments. The school will also continue to build its partnerships with Artsmark.

### Intended impact and evidence

Our **collaborations** will be a source of increased enjoyment and participation in the arts. We will maintain a record of arts participation and evaluate these accordingly. Pupil voice will demonstrate an increased willingness to participate, and parents will be engaged and supportive. We will evidence our success in the statement of impact by attainment data, quotes from staff and pupils following art related days and activities. Staff confidence levels and the level of engagement from parents and will have developed within the wider community.

