

Artsmark Feedback July 25

You have remained committed to your vision of placing the arts at the forefront in all that you do. You have developed a bespoke curriculum based on the latest autism research which incorporates music to support language and communication development. Did you share this at the Northwest Specialists Arts Settings Forum when talking about your Artsmark journey? Students are offered a range of arts-based qualifications with a clear progression pathway incorporating Foundation and Early Years skills, ASDAN, national curriculum, Arts Award and BTEC. Many congratulations in your consistent success in delivering Arts Award and Trinity qualifications in both music and art and, for the fifth consecutive year, being recognised as a Trinity Champion Centre. Students are offered a broad range of rich arts and cultural experiences such as visiting the cinema, art exhibitions and The Liverpool Philharmonic as well as being visited by an array of industry professionals, artists and engaging with workshops. There are also opportunities for students to take part in projects such as the World Reimagined. Are there occasions when some students are able to perform or is that not appropriate? Specialist staff in music, technology and design have played a key role developing the arts and integrating them across the curriculum. It was great to read some students have gained sufficient confidence through music tuition to interact with unfamiliar staff and adapt to new learning routines. CPD is valued and recognised as being a key ingredient in the successful delivery of the arts. Staff have had the opportunity to take part in CPD beyond the school setting enabling them to network and learn from their peers. Do staff have the chance to learn and work alongside industry professionals when they visit school too? You have shown particular strength in developing Cultural Collaborations and, as a consequence, broadening your Range of Offer. Collaborations with industry professionals such as Tim Jackson, the Lead Horn for The Liverpool Philharmonic have not only offered new opportunities to students but also helped them to develop an understanding of career pathways within the arts. In addition alumni who have gone into careers in the arts or further education offer further insights into careers in the creative industries. Your many collaborations with arts-based partners have presented students with new and exciting experiences and given them authentic opportunities to develop social skills. To progress further you might find it helpful to take on a leadership role in supporting other settings with designing a quality curriculum, monitoring the difference you are making to them. Perhaps you could write up a case study to demonstrate your impact and share this on a bigger platform. Your intention to introduce a student council for the arts would be a good way of developing student voice and will give them the chance to take ownership of their engagement within the arts. Well done on all you have achieved and we look forward to hearing where your next Artsmark journey takes you.