

Rodings Primary School

# Creativity Manifesto

# Why Creativity, Why Here, Why Now?

## Why Creativity?

The arts are the "forgotten fifth pillar of our health" and development. Grounded in research from the Cultural Learning Alliance and Dr. Daisy Fancourt (Art Cure), structured arts engagement increases cognitive ability by 17%, triples higher degree attainment for low-income students, improves reported health by 38%, and builds essential life skills including self-control, self-esteem, empathy, and motivation.

## Why Here?

At Rodings Primary School, creativity is embedded directly into our core mission—"Learning together, caring for each other"—and connects directly to our four pillars: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, CREATIVITY, SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE, COMMUNITY

## Why Now?

Having secured Artsmark Gold, we are strategically elevating our creative provision. By leveraging our local network and national partnerships, we are shifting from individual arts activities to a sustainable, community-wide creative model.



# What We Do: Provision by Art Form

## Visual Arts

- Progressive Curriculum: Structured skills progression from EYFS to Year 6, revisiting key techniques and knowledge across key stages.
- Enrichment & Events: Annual participation in Inktober, International Dot Day, and DEEP enrichment days, partnership with artists including residencies.
- Community Projects: Collaborative workshops, such as creating poppies for Remembrance Day and shared mosaic creation.

## Music

- Instrumental Instruction: Whole-class instrumental tuition using class sets of ukuleles and glockenspiels.
- Peripatetic Lessons: Individual and small-group instrumental teaching delivered by specialist peripatetic teachers.
- Dedicated Learning Spaces: Dedicated music room equipped for vocal and instrumental practice.
- Accreditations & Partners: Music Mark school status, working in direct partnership with the Essex Music Service.

## Dance

- Curriculum Delivery: Core dance instruction embedded within the physical education (PE) curriculum from EYFS through Year 6.
- Professional Workshops: Specialised dance days delivered in collaboration with the Royal Ballet & Opera (RBO).
- Contemporary Styles: High-energy street dance and movement sessions delivered by Hip Hop Pop.

## Drama, Media & Performance

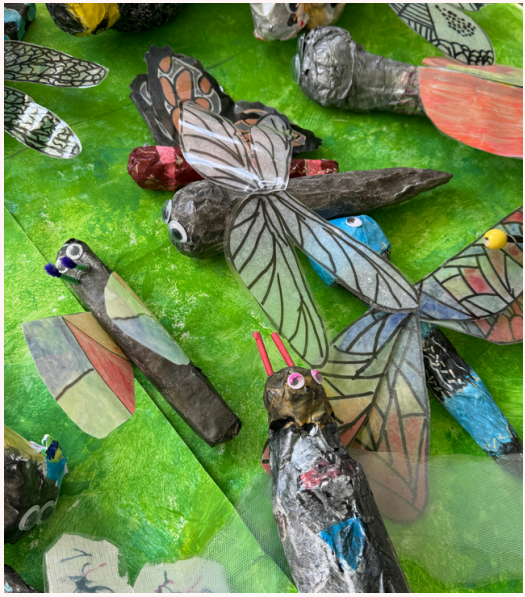
- Performance Spaces: Main hall equipped with high-quality audio, sound, and staging to create a dedicated theatre environment.
- Drama Partnerships: Interactive drama and storytelling workshops facilitated by The Drama Geezers.
- Broadcast Media: An operational school radio station enabling pupil-led broadcasting and communication projects.

## The Impact of Creativity at Rodings

- Academic & Cognitive Growth: Strengthens core brain development and mathematical reasoning through a range of creative opportunities and experinces, directly contributing to higher academic engagement and cognitive performance.
- Wellbeing & Behavioural Development: Cultivates emotional resilience, self-regulation, empathy, and active lifestyles.
- Social Intelligence & Inclusion: Gives every child—regardless of background—a voice and platform to build self-worth and collaborative skills.
- Community Connection: Brings families, local residents, and regional partner schools together through shared creative experiences and public showcases.
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## Future Strategy & Roadmap

- Artsmark Platinum Accreditation: Work alongside Goldsmiths University and Arts Council England over the next two years to achieve Platinum status.
- Dedicated Art Room (Target: 2027/28): Construct and equip a specialist, standalone Art Room to expand practical artistic opportunities.
- Regional Arts Hub: Expand our work with the Dunmow Excellence in Education Partnership (DEEP) 10-school network to establish Rodings as a central arts and enrichment hub for local pupils, families, and partner schools.



# Working in partnership...

We are an Artsmark School currently awarded Gold and working to achieve Platinum in the next 2 years. We have used our colloboration with Artmark and Goldsmiths Univeristy to approach the arts at Rodings in a more strategic way.

Artsmark Gold Award
Awarded by Arts Council England

The processes involved in achieving Artsmark have really helped us to reflect, focus provision and plan long term exciting goals for our school. Work towards Platinum will focus on maintaining current provision but develop further links with the community. The goal? To create an arts hub for our children , families, other local school and our wider community.

DEEP
DUNMOW EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Dunmow Excellence in Education Partnership (DEEP)
A collaboration of ten schools in the Dunmow area, DEEP was initially set up as a school led improvement system mainly focusing on 'academic' outcomes. Over the years it has evolved and now has a strong network of arts leads colloborating to provide subject leader support but special arts events. There is now a detailed enrichment programme across all ten school offering opprotunities from embrodiery days to sketchbook making.

# Other arts collaborations....

ROYAL BALLET & OPERA

The Drama Geezers

Essex Music Service

HIP HOPPUP

MUSIC MARK