

Artsmark Award Opportunities for Music Education Hubs



Artsmark Award

Artsmark is the creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England, providing a clear framework for teachers and education professionals to plan, develop and evaluate their arts and cultural provision. With over 3000 registered schools, Artsmark is seeing measurable impact on the quantity and quality of arts and cultural provision in schools and the way schools are using this strategically by embedding it within their development plans.

Artsmark and Music Education Hubs

Schools are asked to consider their arts and cultural provision through the lens of eight criteria, one of which looks at how they are developing valuable partnerships with arts and cultural providers. To achieve a Gold or Platinum Artsmark Award, schools are expected to be engaging with their Music Education Hub. In 2016, a small group of hubs tested how they could support schools on their Artsmark journey whilst adding value to their own programmes. Some of the benefits their reports evidenced were –

- Discover further opportunities for engagement with schools through awareness of Artsmark priorities
- More positive and productive conversations with schools
- Develop broader and deeper relationships with schools
- Increase demand for hub programmes through more culturally engaged schools
- Development opportunities for staff from hubs

“Artsmark has been a brilliant vehicle for deepening our relationship with our schools – turning it into a fully creative and cultural relationship. [Artsmark has allowed] us to reflect on their learning and their understanding of the difference between doing unrelated arts/music activities and the way it can be embedded through strategic interventions like Artsmark.....we haven’t seen any diminution of activity, it has just gone broader and deeper and has helped cement our relationships” **Hub lead**

Artsmark Partnership Programme

The Artsmark Partnership Programme is an Arts Council England endorsed network of organisations who support Artsmark registered schools on their journey to embed arts and culture across the curriculum. Schools can engage with any external partners they choose but the Artsmark Partner logo offers reassurance that the organisation understands the requirements and process of the Artsmark Award and that they will adhere to the Code of Practice of the programme.

Music Education Hubs that are interested in joining the programme are encouraged to contact their local [Bridge Organisation](#) to find out more.

How can Music Education Hubs support Artsmark Schools?

Below are some examples of ways in which Music Education Hubs can support schools to deliver against Artsmark criteria and should be used with reference to the Artsmark [Self-Assessment Framework](#).

Artsmark Criteria for schools		
1	Leadership Demonstrate leadership	Use your School Music Education Plan (SMEP) visits to support whole school planning Support schools to share good practice through your local and regional networks
2	Curriculum Design Embed a diverse curriculum	Your offer includes programmes that link music to the wider curriculum and you support curriculum design through SMEP visits You provide opportunities for students to perform and see live performances
3	Continued Professional Development (CPD) Offer staff development opportunities	You provide CPD opportunities across your schools' network which can be flexible to meet individual school needs Support the development of quality teaching resources Facilitate opportunities for schools to share resources
4	Pupil Engagement Engage Children and Young People	Your offer provides a broad range of pupils with opportunities to participate and to showcase their work Support opportunities for pupils to contribute to the planning and delivery of projects The work of your hub has a positive impact on the outcomes for students
5	Range of Offer Establish a wide ranging cultural offer	Provide a broad offer of projects and programmes for schools, both within the curriculum and as extra-curricular activity Utilise networks to support schools to access to a wide range of arts and cultural activities by signposting to other organisations, providing a deeper understanding of cultural connections
6	Partnerships Develop valuable partnerships	Use SMEP conversations to build schools' awareness of their local cultural landscape You support schools to develop leadership roles that support pupils and staff beyond their own setting
7	Equality and Diversity Ensure equality and diversity for all	Your offer for schools meets the needs of pupils from diverse backgrounds and with a range of needs You support schools to ensure equality of access to art and cultural provision and embed it within their initiatives to improve pupils' wellbeing
8	Values and Ethos Promote arts and culture in your values and ethos	Use SMEP conversations to advocate for the intrinsic value of arts subjects and their place within the broader curriculum You support Arts Award progression through WCET and by signposting and advocate for other formal qualifications in the arts You provide links to professional opportunities or work experience and raise awareness of cultural career paths