**Template press release – awarded schools**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date**

***[Name of school]* receives prestigious Artsmark Award**

Pupils and staff at ***[name of school]*** are celebrating after receiving a prestigious Artsmark Award; the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England.

Artsmark supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education, putting creativity and wellbeing at the heart of the curriculum, as well as ensuring every young person can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

In order to achieve their Artsmark Award, ***[name of school]*** had to develop their arts and culture provision to embed a broad and ambitious curriculum. This was achieved by creating an overall plan that was committed to and delivered across the whole school.

***[Name of school]*** was supported by ***[name of local Bridge organisation]*** in planning and developing their objectives. ***[Name of local Bridge organisation]*** worked alongside the school at various stages to support their Artsmark Award achievement.

The Artsmark assessor commended ***[name of school]*** on….***[Quote from the Artsmark assessor found in your confirmation email]***

On receiving the award, ***[name of headteacher/chair of governors/SLT, job role]*** said: “We’re extremely proud of achieving our Artsmark ***[level]*** Award. We are committed to delivering a high-quality arts and cultural education and we look forward to continue to grow with Artsmark.”

Dr Darren Henley OBE, Chief Executive of the Arts Council, said:

“I would like to congratulate ***[name of school]*** on their Artsmark Award. Becoming an Artsmark school demonstrates that through offering a broad, ambitious, and creative curriculum, every pupil can develop character and resilience, increasing their knowledge, curiosity and skills that will remain with them through to adult life.”

* **Ends**

For more information or images, contact ***[fill in your name/number and email]***

**Notes to editor:**

***[Insert information about your school]***

**About Artsmark Award**

Artsmark Award is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England. It can help unlock young people’s potential, building their confidence, character, and resilience.

Artsmark’s clear and flexible framework can be used to embed creativity across the whole curriculum, address school improvement priorities and ensure every young person can access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

Artsmark is open to primary, secondary, and special schools, pupil referral units, secure settings, youth offending teams, hospital schools and sixth form colleges. Artsmark is awarded at three levels; Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Visit [**artsmark.org.uk**](https://www.artsmark.org.uk)for more information.

**About Arts Council England**

**Arts Council England** is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in [*Let’s Create*](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/letscreate) that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision.

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government’s unprecedented £1.96 billion **Culture Recovery Funds**. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/BSZ4Cr8O0hqnMXUGP2-l?domain=artscouncil.org.uk).

Visit [**artscouncil.org.uk**](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk) for more information.