

- The AOLE development process represents the second key strand of work in developing the new curriculum for Wales
- There are six Areas of Learning and Experience, as identified within Successful Futures
- Three of the working groups chairs come from within the region. (Vanessa McCarthy chairing Expressive Arts, Mike Griffiths chairing Mathematics and Numeracy and Glen Gilchrist chairing Science and Technology)
- Each group is tasked to develop proposals for a framework for each AoLE
- Timeline for this work is January to June 17



The group is currently considering:

- the rationale for Expressive and Creative Arts (3-16) as set out within Successful Futures
- the organisation and scope of Expressive and creative arts

Rationale

Through the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience, schools and teachers can encourage children and young people to develop their creative appreciation and talent and their artistic and performance skills. The expressive arts provide opportunities to explore thinking, refine, and communicate ideas, engaging thinking, imagination, and senses creatively. They also promote exploration of issues of personal and cultural identity. Engagement with the expressive arts requires application, perseverance and close attention to detail, capacities that have benefits across learning more widely. In the Arts in Education in the Schools of Wales review commissioned by the Welsh Government²⁸, Professor Dai Smith said powerfully ‘It is clear...that countries across the world recognise the significance and potential of the arts in enabling improved educational, social and economic outcomes’²⁹.

The expressive arts provide inspiration and motivation as they bring children and young people into contact with the creative processes, performances and products of others and stimulate their own experimentation and creativity. They provide many opportunities for experiences such as visits to theatres and galleries and for bringing the specialist expertise of, for example, artists and musicians into the classroom. Achievement in the expressive arts also provides a basis for lifelong participation and can ultimately contribute to a thriving economy and cultural life for Wales.

Scope and connections with other Areas of Learning and Experience

The Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience will span art, drama, music, dance, film, and digital media, encompassing wider creative aspects such as improvisation. The Review has taken account of the report of the review of Arts in Education in the Schools in Wales ³⁰, which described ‘the arts’ as including the making, performance, expression or appreciation of one or more of: music; drama; dance; film and

digital media; visual arts and design; literature and creative writing. All of these art forms will be addressed within the curriculum, mainly through the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience, but outcomes for literature and creative writing will form part of the Languages, literacy and communication Area of Learning and Experience. There will also be connections between the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience and the technologies components of the Science and technology and Humanities Areas of Learning and Experience in interpreting and expressing meaning.

Questions for consideration and response by all CSC schools:

- Do you agree with the **rationale** behind Expressive Arts as defined Successful Futures?
- Are there any important areas missing?
- What are the definitions of Expressive Arts?

CSC schools' membership of the Expressive and Creative Arts Group:

Mynydd Cynffig Primary School,

Pencoed Comprehensive,

Ysgol Gynradd Cynwyd Sant,

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg

Porthcawl Comprehensive

Meeting Schedule	
January 17/18	Curriculum Event
February 15/16	AoLE Workshops
March 14/15	AoLE Workshops
April 3-6	AoLE Workshops
May 2-/3	AOLE Workshops