



WELCOME TO ARTSMARK MONTHLY



Hello!

I'm Abi, Education Programme Manager at Festival Bridge. I look after our Artsmark programme - so if you've attended one of our Development training/ support sessions, or received feedback on a Statement of Commitment or Impact, chances are you've encountered me along the way!

This is the final edition of Artsmark Monthly - I really hope you've enjoyed reading and have found the content useful. Remember, you can catch up and revisit the entire series over on the **Festival Bridge website**.

As we draw to the end of this series I am heartened by how many schools are returning to some sense of normality; pushing ahead with really exciting plans and seeing the impact directly on the young people they serve.

Celebrating Artsmark20

In the various encounters I have already had with educators this term, I have heard great intentions for the future. 2021 marks 20 years of Artsmark, and to celebrate and amplify all that you do this academic year, we would like to ask you to send to us examples of your various amazing work (whether videos of performances, photographs of art works, copies of stories/ poems... get creative!) These will culminate in a region-wide sharing celebration next Summer. We'll be collecting your content **over the coming months** so please include this in your planning.

To send us your content, please email bridge@nnfestival.org.uk (either by attaching or through WeTransfer.com) or tag us on twitter [@NNFBridge](https://twitter.com/NNFBridge). If you have any questions or would like to discuss plans further, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Congratulations to:

- **Great Barton Church of England, Primary Academy** for their Silver Award
- **Gretton School, Cambridge** for their Gold Award



QUALITY PRINCIPLES UNPICKED

Quality Principle: Enabling Personal Progression

What does it mean?

Whilst looking for inspiration for the final Quality Principle, I was stirred to go back to 2015 when the Artsmark Award was refreshed and an **Arts Council England report** on 'Using the Quality Principles in work for, by and with children and young people' was published. Six years on, it is just as relevant now. Whilst reading, I discovered this set of Quality Metrics for evaluating participatory arts with personal progression in mind:

- I got helpful feedback
- I did something I didn't know I was capable of
- I improved my artistic skills
- The project opened up new opportunities for me

In the report The Garage, Norwich also reflected that:

"The Quality Principles helped [children and young people] reflect on their own learning and set personal goals".

In the wonderful world of creativity and the arts, I find it liberating that while external testing may be involved, progression can ultimately be determined by the individual and measured by themselves. With personal progression, what we are discussing lies in what opportunities your curriculum affords - for all young people to experience, reflect, set goals, to persevere, rehearse and refine.

How could it look in my school?

Looking through the amazing '**Teaching with Creativity Hub**' on the TES website, I found examples of so many inspiring Artsmark schools, including this from Ricards Lodge High School in Wimbledon, which reminded me that progression is not just for individual skills and subjects. Reading this piece highlights the value of creative subjects in giving skills for life that can be taken into any number of careers.

Try some of these ideas:

- Recognise talent in young people and find ways to share across staff and nurture it
- Give young people a voice, so that they can be confident to use it throughout their education settings and can be the ambassadors and advocates for the arts post 16
- Support & inspire young people by learning about jobs in the creative industries
- Keep your curriculum varied, always introduce new things, and work with specialists either as a 'wow moment' or for CPD or to demonstrate their skill.

What next?

Define your own school interpretation of the Quality Principles; what do they mean to you and to *your* young people? Once you have explored all 7, you will see any next steps that you might want to make to make further school improvements. I can't wait to see your celebrations and hear the stories behind them!

These awarded schools have been: Enabling Personal Progression

The Round House Primary | St Neots | Cambridgeshire

The Round House Primary has developed its arts provision, increasing parental engagement and extending the children's experiences of the Arts beyond school. They have Artsmark as part of their SDP and have established medium term planning that ensures progression in arts skills. There has been CPD in art, with teachers working alongside visiting artists and have developed a relationship with Wysing Arts; this has led to Gifted and Talented Arts Days across the Diamond Learning Partnership Trust.
Silver Artsmark Award

Gretton School | Cambridge

Gretton School offers specialist provision for SEN learners that places a great deal of emphasis on the Arts. Since the majority of Gretton students struggle with written work a premium is placed on practical investigations, drama role-play and storyboarding to demonstrate their understanding and to document their work. To this end the Arts are embedded in the Gretton curriculum because they provide an opportunity for a range of different learning styles to support students who learn kinaesthetically, auditory and visually.

Arts Award is thriving at the school and is embedded. During the delivery of each of the workshops older KS4 and KS5 students take on an arts leadership role and support younger students during the sessions both on a practical level and also act as an emotional support for those who may be anxious about attending a workshop which is new and unknown.

Gold Artsmark Award

Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT)

Both of the academies below in Norwich, Norfolk have achieved Artsmark platinum this summer. They are amongst 11 OAT Artsmark settings spanning East and West Midlands and the Festival Bridge area:

City of Norwich School | Norwich

The City of Norwich School, alongside The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Norfolk Centre for Young Musicians, Norfolk Music Hub and Norwich Theatre Royal provide an outstanding gifted and talented progression route for our children and young people across the county. Pupils travel from all over Norfolk to experience expert tuition, guidance and ensemble work at a conservatoire level. Without such strong networks and partnerships in place, it would simply not be possible to offer this kind of provision

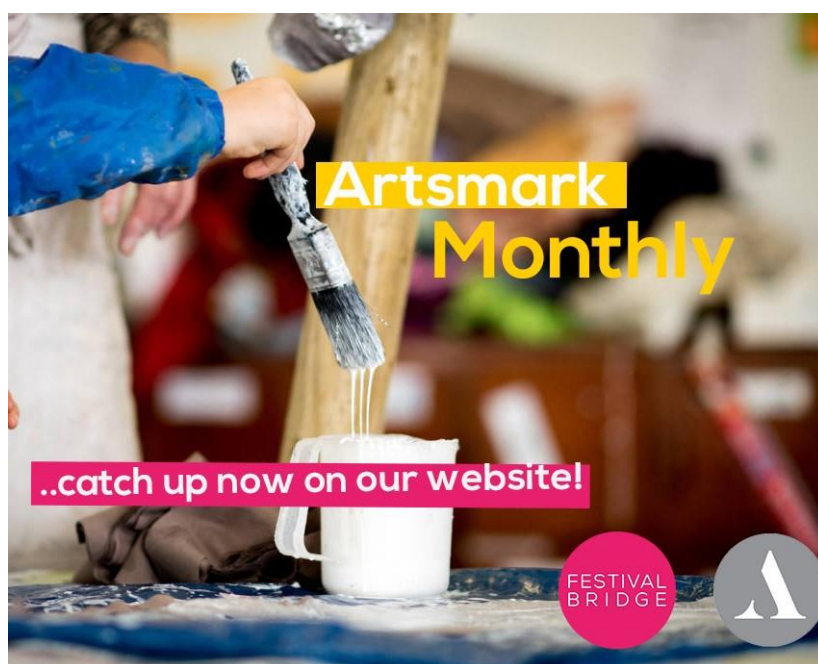
outside of major city networks and we are extremely proud to be able to provide opportunities of this calibre.

Platinum Artsmark Award

Ormiston Victory Academy | Costessey | Norwich

To enable personal progression Ormiston Victory Academy invest in the arts subjects by giving great coverage of subjects at KS4 and KS5 with specialist teachers. The numbers of students taking creative studies continues to grow; They now have 6 GCSE groups in Photography, 6 GCSE Art, 6 GCSE Creative media and 2 GCSE for textiles. They also introduced a KS5 Performing Arts course and a KS4 GCSE Drama course. They work with local Primary schools to support CPD for the arts so that the young people joining them in KS3 have already had a great creative education and are ready to build on this in their secondary education.

Platinum Artsmark Award



Thanks for reading - remember you can revisit the entire series over on the **Festival Bridge website**, and if you'd like some extra support or guidance at any stage of your Artsmark journey, you can book onto one of our virtual **Artsmark Support Sessions!**



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Bridge Organisation
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