



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15th September 2022

Chailey School receives prestigious Gold Artsmark Award

Pupils and staff at Chailey School are celebrating after receiving the prestigious Gold Artsmark Award in a momentous year for the programme as it celebrates 20 years of arts, culture and creativity in schools.

The Artsmark Award is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education, putting creativity and wellbeing at the heart of the curriculum. Artsmark ensures every young person can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

In order to achieve their Artsmark Award, Chailey School further developed 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. The school was supported by Artsworld in planning and developing their objectives.

The Artsmark assessor commended the school, noting that, 'You have built your provision around carefully planned consideration of the Arts in relation to 'profile, participation, pride and partnerships' ... You have taken forward development of your curriculum, broadening your offer of arts GCSEs, which now include Dance and Photography (which is very popular), and expanding the range of events, shows, exhibitions, and cultural experience. There has been a significant increase in the percentage of students taking arts-based qualifications and a significant improvement in grades achieved ... Your tutor-led reading programme and the embedding of a culturally rich curriculum have benefited all students, you have had a particular focus on the cultural capital of more vulnerable or disadvantaged students, and the understanding of diverse cultures and identities has been promoted through curriculum work in the Arts. Your plans for developing oracy will further strengthen your approaches to inclusion, vocabulary, and the building of cultural capital and cultural literacy.'

On receiving the award, Helen Key said: "We're extremely proud of achieving our Artsmark Gold 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 Chailey 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 **Gemma Butler**

Notes to editor:

Chailey is a predominantly rural 11-16 East Sussex secondary school. The school has also just been awarded Gold mark for 'Learning Outside the Classroom' and is the only secondary school in Sussex or Kent to hold that award, a testimony to the school's desire to develop and support innovative and creative ways of learning.

About Artsmark Award

This year, the Artsmark Award celebrates its 20th anniversary as the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings. 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 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](#) 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.

Visit artscouncil.org.uk for more information.





