

## **HOW GALLERY VISITS CAN SUPPORT THE CURRICULUM**

**‘School visits to art galleries have a profound impact on the creative aspirations and achievements of pupils and their teachers’ and cite ‘memorable experience’ as ‘an indicator of an outstanding curriculum’**

Ian Middleton, Her Majesty’s Inspector, National Adviser for Art, Craft and Design Education, Ofsted, 2011

Visits to the gallery will be fun, educational and we hope, inspiring and memorable. The dedicated Learning Team will lead tours of the galleries, outdoor sculpture and garden and use both formal and informal teaching methods to engage their audience and provide stimulus for learning across the curriculum.

### **ART AND DESIGN**

A key component of the National Curriculum for Art and Design is the opportunity for students to develop their breadth of study and critical understanding through placing artworks in a wider context and investigating different kinds of work. A gallery visit is the perfect way to support this, exposing students to a range of style and practices, and providing an opportunity for a unique approach to understanding and responding to the world around them.

Throughout a visit to Hauser & Wirth Somerset the Learning Team will ensure that students have the opportunity to record their responses to direct experiences of art through observation and imagination, and to explore visual and other sources of information. There will be the opportunity to reflect on ideas and critically evaluate work, and to adapt and share ideas. These strategies are in line with the National Curriculum, which demands that art be an intellectual, cultural and historical activity as well as a visual practise, as outlined below.

Sketchbooks are essential for a visit and our Learning Team will use a variety of techniques and exercises to encourage note-taking, drawing, sketching and writing.

### **Key Stages 1 and 2**

The National Curriculum identifies four key areas of learning:

- Exploring and Developing Ideas
- Investigating and Recording
- Evaluating and Developing Work
- Knowledge and Understanding

Students will have the opportunity to make first-hand observations and discuss art, whilst visiting the galleries and garden. Through the unique setting, we will develop new techniques and ways of observing, under the guidance of experienced practitioners in the field of education and art. The children will be challenged to think critically and look at their own artwork in the context of historical and social settings provided by the gallery visit. Students will also observe original works of art to learn about how artists work with colour, pattern, texture, line, tone, shape, form and space.

### **Key Stages 3 and 4**

The National Curriculum identifies four key areas of learning:

- Creativity
- Competence
- Cultural understanding
- Critical understanding

We would like to encourage students to think differently and experience new ways of working from which they can explore in their own art work. As part of the visit experience, students will be encouraged to challenge their conceptions of what is art, gain an understanding of the social and historical contexts to the work, and use questioning to explore new ideas and techniques.

There will be opportunity to study works of international art on site with due consideration of the process, techniques and materials used to create them.

### **THE OUDOLF FIELD**

The Meadow Garden will be an educational resource that will respond to both elements of the Science Curriculum and also the Visual Arts.

#### **Key Stages 1 and 2**

- Students will be able to observe and record a variety of flora to learn about the life cycle of plants and the role of the seasons.

#### **Key Stages 3 and 4**

- Students will learn about the philosophy behind the garden and have the opportunity to use it as a visual resource to explore and develop ideas of colour, pattern, texture, form.

### **CROSS-CURRICULAR APPROACHES**

Programmes of study that facilitate links across subject areas encourage pupils to make valuable connections that can support more creative and independent thinking, and transferable skills. Linking art with other subjects provides it with a rich and diverse context that makes it both relevant and meaningful to pupils. It can also provide more justification for trips to galleries by developing a breadth of content, and covering more than one subject whilst out of school.

A trip to Hauser & Wirth Somerset can build links between Art and Language, as language underpins most activities in the gallery; Art and Science, through the use of our garden; Art and History, as art is a valuable resource in the study of history, people and cultures; Art, ICT and Technologies, as many of our exhibiting artists employ digital media; and, Art and Music, as the exhibiting artists often use sensory experience in their work.

We believe that the most effective gallery visits are those that are integrated into longer term planning and for which pupils have been prepared for and extended with work back at school. To this end we are making available online resources and also setting up a Teachers Network to meet once a term.