

Creative Classrooms

Student ownership

STUDENT OWNERSHIP

Students take some responsibility for their own learning and are supported to define their own limits. They are motivated to improve their own work and as they do so deep learning facilitates personal growth.

Through the creative process students are given choices and encouraged to make their own decisions about both what they should learn and how. They are supported to make the right kinds of choices within a safe and secure environment tailored to their needs. That is, to take a chance, step outside of comfort zones, try new approaches and test limits. This can be challenging for students with a diverse range of needs. Some students may have trouble starting a creative activity, whereas others may find it hard to sustain momentum and see it through to completion. Even the most academically advanced learners sometimes have trouble identifying what makes them curious or enthused, or conversely, hesitant and less likely to be creative. Students therefore need extra encouragement, or assistance in the form of help, reinforcement, or guidance so as to be able to maximise their strengths, talents, interests, energy, effort, and coping mechanisms.

Each student is stretching in different ways by engaging their mind, extending knowledge, and tapping creativity. They are both supported and encouraged to do so, even if it is challenging. For students at Benton Dene creativity is a genuine choice and it is something that they choose to do!

STUDENT OWNERSHIP

“We believe that creativity is in us all and each and everyone of us has the right to express ourselves through creative process, no matter what the barriers to that might be. Talent can potentially be there, ready to be discovered, but the right opportunities have to be presented for it to be released and enabled.”

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“We aim to provide authentic learning experiences with as much student led content as possible”

Clare Boreham, Subject Lead for Art and DT, Benton Dene Special School

