

## Statement of Impact Top Tips and Guidance



This guide has been produced to provide a few helpful prompts and suggestions to support the completion of your Statement of Impact.

### Top Tips

- Remember both your **Statement of Commitment** and **Statement of Impact** will be used together to assess your Artsmark Award. Therefore, the documents should talk to each other.
- The assessment panel will only consider what is written in these two documents when assessing; hyperlinks, pictures, additional evidence or appendices cannot be accepted.
- Your Statement of Impact should be **objective and analytical** rather than solely descriptive and celebratory.
- Use the Statement of Impact as a working document throughout the Artsmark process.
- Involve others from across your school in gathering and analysing evidence.
- The action plan in your Statement of Commitment (question 4) will form the basis of your Statement of Impact. Demonstrate that you have **measured the impact** of the plans you put in place. You will be drawing on evidence to illustrate the kinds of outcomes you achieved (*e.g. data, quotes, stats, examples of work, bench-marked student perceptions, observations, changes in policy/practice*).
- When completing your Statement of Impact, **make sure you use:**
  - the Self-Assessment criteria – ensure you have provided evidence against **all the criteria** for the level you want to achieve
  - your school improvement/development plan
  - the Quality Principles
  - your Statement of Commitment. Remember, it is fine if your plans have changed along the way - you just need to explain why.
- Revisit the Self-Assessment criteria level statements and descriptors – *e.g. if you are looking to achieve Gold level, have you shown how arts are **established** and embedded across your school and how you demonstrate **measurable effects**?*
- Ask others in your setting to read your Statement of Impact (alongside your Statement of Commitment) before submitting – this should ensure all relevant information from across the school has been included.
- **If you have any questions or need further support please contact The Mighty Creatives on [artsmark@themightycreatives.com](mailto:artsmark@themightycreatives.com)**

## Guidance notes

### **Context** – up to 150 words

If there have been changes to the context of your school or education setting since the submission of your Statement of Commitment, please describe them here.

### **Guidance:**

Note any significant changes that have impacted on your Artsmark Journey, e.g. key staff changes, academisation, etc. We understand that the context of all schools has changed considerably as a result of the Covid-19 crisis and will be sensitive to this in our assessment. You do not have to refer to the impact of coronavirus on your school in this section unless you feel there are unique changes to the context of your setting resulting from the pandemic.

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### **Question 1** – up to 500 words

Reflecting back on your Statement of Commitment and the Artsmark Award criteria, what was successful in your Artsmark journey and how did you achieve this?

### **Guidance to consider:**

Your response should outline an executive summary of the main aims and objective achieved during your Artsmark journey.

Use the Self-Assessment criteria to hone your response to the key areas of importance e.g. values and ethos, leadership, children and young people, curriculum design, range of offer, CPD, partnerships or equality and diversity.

Refer back to your response in Q6 of the Statement of Commitment.

- How do you know you have been successful in your Artsmark journey?
  - What evidence have you collected to illustrate success?
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### **Question 2** – up to 500 words

What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them? Were there any differences from your original plans and how did you implement them?

### **Guidance to consider:**

This question enables you to provide details of *why* any amendments/alterations took place in implementing your action plan.

You may want to think about:

- any targets you set in your action plan that were not achievable
- any targets that have been exceeded
- whether any audit you did revealed previously unconsidered areas that needed to be developed
- changes of priorities
- changes of staff
- if there was a challenge, how did you address it and overcome it?

Whatever the reason, do not try to gloss over or ignore any changes (no-one expects an action plan to be implemented to the letter) but address the reason why the activity did not happen or changed and how you overcame this.

This question is also a good opportunity to illustrate the positive and surprising developments in your Artsmark journey.

### **Question 3** – up to 500 words

What impact has the Artsmark journey had on your children and young people and how can you evidence this?

#### **Guidance to consider:**

Focus on the impact of your action plan and reference the aims set out in your Statement of Commitment and School Development Plan. What changes have occurred as a result of your activity?

You can evidence the impact of your Artsmark journey in a number of different ways, depending on what will best illustrate the changes that have taken place e.g.

- Staff/pupil/parent quotes
- Data (e.g. attendance/attainment)
- Teacher observations
- Focus groups (e.g. group of students you have been working with)
- Questionnaires/surveys
- Examples of students work

Use the language of the Quality Principles and the Self-Assessment criteria to help you frame the impact for your children and young people.

Examples of the impact of implementing your Artsmark action plan might include:

- impact on individual pupils (e.g. re-engagement in learning of a particular pupil)
- impact on specific target groups (e.g. any particular cohorts who are now engaged with the arts who weren't previously)

- if there have been improvements in (for example) attendance or take-up of arts subjects (both curricular and extra-curricular) or exam/test results. Give details of these with data/statistics where appropriate.
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#### **Question 4 – up to 500 words**

What impact has the Artsmark journey had on your staff, leadership team and wider community and how can you evidence this?

##### **Guidance to consider:**

As in Q3, focus on the impact of your action plan and reference the aims set out in your Statement of Commitment and School Development Plan. Again, focus on what changes have occurred as a result of your activity and what evidence you have to illustrate these changes.

Examples of the impact of implementing your Artsmark action plan might include impact on staff, parents, or the wider community (e.g. career progression/development of specialist knowledge for a staff member, engagement/involvement of particular parents, or specific initiatives involving the wider community).

Document any partnerships you have developed with the wider community, i.e. arts organisations, local businesses, parents, charities. What impact have these partnerships had on your setting? What benefit has the partnership had on the partners?

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#### **Question 5 – up to 500 words**

How has your Artsmark journey influenced change to your strategic values and the priorities in your strategic improvement plan?

##### **Guidance to consider:**

How did the Artsmark process impact on whole school or wider school changes?

Examples might include:

- changes in prioritising the arts
- influencing your schools' vision and values?
- changes in policy
- changes in cross-curricular working
- curriculum development
- changes in delivery of CPD
- changes in teaching practice/pedagogy
- developing new partnerships with external organisations and/or other schools

## Question 6 – up to 500 words

What are your future goals and ambitions for developing the role of arts and culture in your setting?

### Guidance to consider:

Consider what you have learnt from your current two-year journey. What would like to develop further and keep moving forward?

You might want to consider:

- how you will share your expertise with other settings?
- how you will share your learning to date with parents and the wider community?
- what partnerships you might want to develop?
- what your approach to CPD might look like?
- how you will continue to develop your curriculum?
- how another cycle of Artsmark could develop the role of arts and culture in your school?

**Don't forget! If you have any questions or need further support please contact the Artsmark team at The Mighty Creatives on [artsmark@themightycreatives.com](mailto:artsmark@themightycreatives.com)**

## Submitting your Statement of Impact



Once you're ready to submit your Statement of Impact, use the unique link emailed to you by Arts Council England (if you haven't received the link, email [artsmark@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:artsmark@artscouncil.org.uk)). You'll then paste the contents of your form into their online submissions system.

Make sure you've had approval from your Headteacher and Chair of Governors, or where those positions don't exist, persons with equivalent levels of responsibility before you go to submit. You'll also need your DfE number to hand.

Note: you can't save the online form and return to it, so make sure your prepared answers are complete in your Statement of Impact template (available [here](#)) before entering online.

