

I am sure that you will be aware of the Artsmark scheme, the national award available to schools committed to the provision and development of the arts. Norfolk as a local authority has continuously supported schools during the application process since Artsmark was first introduced seven years ago. We offer an INSET course for potential applicants. If you are considering applying for Artsmark you are recommended to attend this course as it is likely to save you time in the longer term. The course will run on 18th September 2007 and you can book online at <http://www.cpd.norfolk.gov.uk/sdms/> (course reference ECAA4/A).

The deadline for applications this year is **Friday 16th November 2007**. The Artsmark Helpline number is **0800 0560 196** and this line will open from **28th August 2007**. The application forms and guidance may be downloaded from the website www.artsmark.org.uk from the end of July. Look out for a copy of the Artsmark leaflet in the schools post week commencing 9th July which gives further details.

Artsmark raises the arts profile of schools and advertises their commitment to providing their students with a broad range of arts opportunities. The Artsmark materials will help you carry out a detailed self audit and self review of the arts in your school and provide a benchmark for arts improvement. Schools are able to match their arts provision against one of three standards, and you are likely to find the audit process informative, whether or not you decide subsequently to submit an application. Please be aware that the Artsmark form is rigorous and headteachers will need to ensure that adequate staff time is allocated to the application process and should plan for the active involvement of all relevant staff and governors.

Many Norfolk schools have already successfully achieved Artsmark status and it is hoped that many more will be successful in Round 8. There is an exemplary case-study from Norfolk on the Artsmark website.

Please note that no Artsmark packs are available through the local authority. If you have any queries then please contact the Artsmark Helpline direct on 0800 0560 196 or email artsmark@artscouncil.org.uk. The local authority is likely to be approached at a later stage in the process as a referee.

Once awarded, Artsmark is valid for three years.

Artsmark

Date	Time	Venue	Course Code	Event Ref.
18/09/2007	13:00 - 16:00	Norwich Professional Development Centre	ECAA4	A

Course Context/Audience:

Headteachers and Arts leaders from Primary, Secondary and Special Schools possibly accompanied by a designated arts governor (see MI sheet for governor course fee)

Objectives:

It is strongly recommended that schools considering applying for Artsmark attend this course.

Artsmark involves a supported, rigorous and valuable whole school self- review of the quality and range of arts provision in and out of school hours. The prestigious award has three levels and is recognised as significant by Ofsted. Norfolk is recognised as an exemplary local authority in its active and sustained support of Artsmark. The application forms are revised annually and now help schools link arts achievements explicitly to the ECM outcomes. By the end of this session school arts representatives will understand the key principles and benefits of Artsmark, be able to lead an arts audit of provision, and have increased confidence to make a successful application/reapplication for an Artsmark Award.

Course Leader: Marigold Ashwell, who is an Artsmark Project Team member and Validator.

Course Leader/s: Marigold Ashwell

Phase: All schools

Fee: £70.00