

Exercising Choice over Self-Expression

Fostering curiosity and creativity in primary school classrooms is an important educational goal. These recommendations are developed based on an exploratory study aimed at showcasing the ways in which teachers are fostering these important skills.

MODEL AND VALUE MULTIPLE MODES OF EXPRESSION

- Communicate the value of student self-produced creations.
- Explicitly draw attention to the value of the content of student expressions.
- Explicitly draw attention to the different ways in which students produce and communicate their learning.

- Provide choice over how students explore, reflect and communicate during their learning.
- Integrate opportunities for students to express themselves in multiple ways, including acting, building, dancing, miming, writing, crafting, painting, sketching, and doodling.

CHOICE OVER MODES OF EXPRESSION

INTEGRATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO MAKE DECISIONS AND SUPPORT CONFIDENCE

- Support each student's confidence through giving choice over how, where and when they share their views and creations.
- Provide students with opportunities to drive their own learning. For example, pre-recorded short voice-clips can support those that still want to share but are not ready to speak directly to the class.

- Regularly integrate opportunities for students to follow their curiosity in trying new ways to express themselves.
- Support children's enthusiasm towards both their creative capabilities and their creative outputs.
- Seek opportunities to point out how students' creativity and curiosity are valuable to the class, school and broader community.

LINK CREATIVE SELF-EXPRESSION TO CURIOSITY