

St Laurence Church Infant School

Art and Design Policy



Approved by: Curriculum, Safeguarding and
Pupil Welfare Committee

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"Art, craft and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity. A high-quality art and design education should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation." (*National Curriculum 2013*)

Intent

Why do we teach Art and Design?

At St Laurence Church Infant School we believe that Art and Design provides our children with an opportunity to express themselves freely. We want our children to become independent designers with the confidence to implement creative skills they have learned. A recent study of the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) states that, "the arts and culture industry has grown £390 million in a year and now contributes £10.8 billion a year to the UK economy". (*April 2019*) With such a strong emphasis on jobs in the creative sector, we want help our children to grow and develop their creative ability now, ready for them to become the designers of the future.

Implementation

How we teach Art and Design

In EYFS we teach weekly learning themes and in KS1 we teach either half termly or termly topics. In EYFS, the children are given independent access to materials to become familiar with different types of media, providing them with a good foundation in this subject as they prepare to enter KS1. The artwork that the children produces often reflects the weekly focus, allowing for cross-curricular learning. This work is then displayed on the children's gallery boards. In KS1, Art and Design lessons reflect the termly topic and are planned carefully to provide a progression of skills. These lessons focus on different areas of the curriculum, such as learning about the life and work of a particular artist or practising a new artistic skill. In KS1, children's artwork is displayed either on their gallery boards, or in their individual sketchbooks.

How we plan Art and Design

The Art and Design co-ordinator meets with EYFS and KS1 leads to plan a delivery of lessons that suits the needs of each year group. The topics that the children will learn about are discussed, to ensure the Art and Design lessons link with these topics. The subject co-ordinator then provides teachers with planning for each topic, carefully taking into consideration genres and artists that link with the learning focus. Each teacher then constantly assesses the progress of their pupils and modifies lessons accordingly.

At St Laurence Church Infant School, we have also begun our journey to achieving the Artsmark award and are looking forward to embracing the opportunities this brings.

How we teach Art and Design in EYFS

In EYFS Art and Design is taught through Expressive Arts and Design, but often occurs during other parts of the curriculum as well; for example, children may draw a picture to illustrate a sentence they have written. The exploration of different media and techniques leads directly into the progression of skills which are developed in KS1.

How we teach Art and Design in KS1

Art and Design lessons link closely to the current topic that is being studied, therefore allowing for cross-curricular links and a more rounded understanding of the focus topic. KS1 topics last either a term or half-term and Art and Design lessons are planned to fit within this time frame, allowing for a progression of skills of a few weeks. For example, when Year One go on a trip to a mosque, Islamic Art is the focus in Art and Design lessons.

How we ensure all children access the Art and Design curriculum

At St Laurence Church Infant School all children access the Art and Design curriculum regardless of ability. When planning Art and Design, children's varying levels of ability will be considered and differentiated accordingly. The pace of teaching and learning will be reflected both in lesson planning and assessment. Children experiencing difficulty with equipment will be provided with a more suitable alternative.

How we develop art skills

In Year One we introduce the children to a range of skills, which they are then given the opportunity to develop in Year Two. We use a skills progression document to ensure that multiple skills are taught and to ensure that they evolve over the course of KS1. The techniques that we focus on are: drawing, painting, printing, textiles, collage and 3D form. We also teach the children to evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design, and to know about great artists, craft makers and designers, understanding the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

How we assess Art and Design

As in all other areas of the curriculum, assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. Children are given immediate feedback during lesson time and steps to move their learning forward. Teachers use this knowledge to assess progress against the Art and Design National Curriculum and the skills progression document. Class teachers use individual pupil sketchbooks as a record of their learning; examples of the children's work are also kept in the subject co-ordinator's folder. The planning, teaching and assessment of Art and Design is monitored by the Art and Design lead. A subject action plan is written each academic year to identify targets for the development of Art and Design. Children's progress in Art and Design is reported to parents through the pupil annual report and termly consultation meetings.

Resources

Each classroom has access to a well-maintained art area. The every-day art resources are kept within the reach of the children within each classroom, and more specialised resources are kept and easily accessible in the stock room. Prior to the start of each topic, the subject co-ordinator meets with the EYFS and KS1 leads to ensure that all the necessary resources are available.

How is the teaching and learning of Art and Design monitored?

The subject co-ordinator has regular discussions with class teachers about the delivery of the Art and Design Curriculum. These discussions allow for planning to be updated and modified accordingly in order to best suit the cohort. The subject co-ordinator offers support in this subject by observing lessons and monitoring sketchbooks. Pupil voice also plays an important role in the monitoring of this subject.

Impact

We want our children to enjoy exploring their creativity and become confident artists and designers. By helping our children to develop a variety of skills, and by allowing them to explore a range of media and equipment, we hope that they will leave our school with a range of artistic skills embedded, ready to continue their creative journey in KS2 and beyond.

Review

This policy will be reviewed within the next 3 years or before if there are changes to the Art curriculum.

Date of policy May 2020

Date of review May 2023

Art and Design Co-ordinator Vicky Rumboldt