

Art and Design

Intent

At St James Church of England Primary School, we strive to prepare all our children to successfully aspire to a wealth of opportunities with curiosity and resilience embedded in all they do. We believe Art allows opportunities for imagination and creativity. We aim to teach from the National Curriculum, whilst providing a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures progression and development of knowledge and skills, all of which support the children in preparation for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences in later life.

Art and Design at our school is inclusive for all children and allows children to respond to the world around them in a range of ways, providing visual, tactile and sensory experiences. At St James C of E Primary School we want our children to be engaged and inspired, supporting them to immerse themselves in a world of craft and design. The focus is in developing proficiency in drawing, understanding colour and shade and sculpture, using their curiosity and resilience to develop a rigorous understanding, critical awareness and inspiration of art and design.

Art contributes to children's personal development in creativity, independence, judgement and self-reflection. Moreover, it enables pupils to develop a natural sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them and therefore links strongly to our school values. Understanding the visual elements of art and design (line, tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape, 3D form) will be developed by providing an accessible and engaging curriculum which will enable children to aspire to be successful in the opportunities provided.

We strive for children to learn about a range of artists, graphic designers, fashion designers, curators, architects and print makers and aspire them to be ambitious both in their work, at our school and in their own lives, both now and in the future.

Our aims:

- To ensure we engage pupils through the topics we teach and promote opportunities for pupils to use creativity and imagination when producing their own designs.
- As children move through the school, we aim for children to become more confident in their critical thinking, use of skills and knowledge and understanding of using different processes to design, make and evaluate.
- We want children to know about the history of art and design and how this has contributed to the wealth, culture and creativity of the world we live in today.
- To produce art work and record ideas in imaginative ways.
- To evaluate work using the language of art, craft and design.

Implementation

At St James', we will achieve this by:

- Teaching art regularly. The children will cover an art topic at least once every other term and will also have additional opportunities to engage with art and design activities throughout the school year.
- Linking art as closely as possible to the topic for the term, to ensure relevance and context.
- Teaching a predominantly skills-based curriculum, which covers drawing, painting, sculpture, textiles and printing.

- Re-teaching skills throughout the children's time in school. Skills are revisited and honed in a spiral curriculum, which progresses in terms of depth and challenge, to build on the children's previous learning.
- Ensuring that each child develops their skills and techniques in a way appropriate to them, through clear differentiation and support, active and purposeful experiences, and using a variety of art materials and teaching strategies.
- Fostering an enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts and a knowledge of artists, craftspeople and designers demonstrating how their aspirations can become realities.
- Introducing children to artists and art movements directly linked to the skills or topics they are covering to build on their curiosity within their topics
- Utilising a sketchbook approach, so that children feel safe to experiment and take risks, without the fear of doing something 'wrong' thus building resilience to be successful
- Openly promoting art and design as a possible further study or career choice and the wealth of opportunities within the arts.
- Encouraging each child to evaluate their art and design work and that of others, both with peers and adults.
- Celebrating effort, progress and achievement in art through displays, exhibitions and enrichment activities, such as trips out and competitions.

Impact

By the end of their time with us, we want pupils to have learned, improved and embedded a range of artistic skills. They should have an awareness of a broad range of artists and craftspeople, and be able to consider and discuss the artworks they come across. We want our pupils to be confident to explore, experiment and take risks, placing value on the process and journey that they take, not just on the finished product. Most importantly, we want children to have found and enjoyed a creative outlet – a means of self-expression and enjoyment.