

Whitchurch Primary School

Art Implementation

The teaching and implementation of the Art Curriculum is in line with the current National Curriculum guidelines and is supported by planning and resources from 'AccessArt'. (AccessArt works to inspire & enable high quality visual arts teaching, learning & practice. It is the leading provider of digital visual arts resources in the UK, providing inspiration and ideas to the whole community), ensuring a well-structured approach to this creative subject.

Art is taught as a distinct subject in a skills-based manner where key skills, materials and ideas are introduced in such a way that each child can explore their own creativity, enabling them to grow in confidence, understanding and self-directed learning.

The foundation class provides a rich environment in which we encourage and value creativity. We relate the creative development of the children to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals, which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. The children's learning includes art, design and making, dance, role-play and imaginative play. The range of experiences are imaginative and enjoyable.

In Key Stage 1 and 2, each year of the curriculum is split into 6 projects, one for each half term. Within each year there is a development of skills in the main artform areas and with a variety of media. The plan for each year builds upon previous skills learnt. By the end of Year Six children would have received an exceptional and rounded creative education.

The ongoing use of sketchbooks are an integral part of a child's learning journey. They provide a safe place in which to take creative risks, without the fear of judgement. Children have the opportunity to experience what it feels like to take ownership of their learning; to feel a sense of control, pride and motivation. Art vocabulary is built upon year by year and is applied when evaluating and analysing children's own creative work or that of others.

Enrichment activities are planned for within the curriculum taking in gallery trips and visits from in house artists and craft makers. This constitutes an important part of our children's creative process. It provides them with the opportunity to learn about different artists, techniques and styles; widens their horizons, develops inquisitiveness, curiosity and provides them with the physical experience of viewing artwork.

The children's learning is further enhanced with a whole school arts project in the Autumn term where the children have the opportunity to produce a piece of artwork on a specific theme at home. This then forms part of a public exhibition in the local village hall.

We are developing conversation-based assessment in art which takes place on an ongoing basis. This may take place as a class, as a group, or one to one and will feed into processes of reflection and evaluation. We believe this type of assessment underpins good teaching and leads to better outcomes.

Progression may be a spiral, a starburst, a zigzag. Ideally, we need to allow the opportunity to help the child through the creative process; opportunity, exploration, experience and discovery.