

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

Policy for Art and Design

St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School's mission statement

We aim to provide a positive learning experience in a safe and respectful environment. We strive to teach an inspiring and inclusive curriculum that promotes a love of learning. As a Christian school, we endeavour to develop the spiritual and moral values of all members of the St. Matthew's family, and a meaningful, loving relationship with God. We want our children to be cheerful and independent individuals who reach their potential and are proud of their achievements. We hope to develop confident, caring citizens who are well prepared to enjoy happy and rewarding lives.

Our motto: Live, Love, Learn

Art and design is not just a subject to learn, but an activity that you can practise: with your hands, your eyes, your whole personality.

Quentin Blake, Children's Laureate

At St Matthew's we provide a rich environment in which we encourage and value creativity. Children experience a wide range of art and design activities, including the opportunity to work alongside artists and other adults.

Art and Design stimulates creativity and imagination by providing children with opportunities for:

- Visual, tactile and sensory experiences
- Communicating what they see, feel and think through the use of colour, texture, form, pattern, different materials and processes
- Becoming involved in shaping their environment
- Making informed judgments and aesthetic and practical decisions
- Exploring ideas and meanings through the work of artist and designers
- Learning about the diverse roles and functions of art, craft and design in contemporary life, different times and cultures
- Studying the significance of local artists and buildings

Aims of the subject

- To develop creativity and imagination through a range of experiences and activities.
- To enable children to select and record ideas from first-hand experience and from imagination to use in their work.
- To provide opportunities for children to develop their knowledge and skills using a range of materials, tools and techniques.
- To foster children's aesthetic awareness and enable them to make informed critical responses about their own and others' work.
- To increase children's awareness of the roles and purposes of art and design in different times and cultures, including their locality.
- To foster an enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts and a knowledge of artists, craftspeople and designers from both past and present.
- To develop vocabulary so children are able to communicate their ideas and to evaluate their own and the work of others
- To encourage all children to be enthusiastic learners of various artistic skills

Art and Design - Curriculum Planning

Art and Design is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum and at St Matthew's we use the National Curriculum Programme of study as the basis for our curriculum planning in art and design.

Our school embeds the teaching of Art and Design within a thematic based curriculum. Teachers' medium-term and short-term plans are based on an overarching theme, within which learning objectives and outcomes for Art and Design are identified and planned for. Weekly topic plans are drawn from teachers' medium-term planning. Within these, specific learning objectives for each lesson are listed and details set down regarding how sessions are to be taught, including key vocabulary.

We aim to give children of all abilities the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Art and Design and to study designers, artists, crafts people and architects associated with a topic. A balanced coverage of the National Curriculum Programme of study incorporates a planned progression of skills to ensure an increased challenge for children as they move up through the school. From Key Stage 2, children learn to use sketchbooks to aid and improve their Art and Design projects and these are developed in the progressing years to play an integral role in independent planning and designing.

Art and Design across the Curriculum

Art and Design is taught through cross curricular experiences and lends itself particularly well to links with History, Geography, Science, English, Maths, PSHE and R.E. Where links are not naturally made, to other subjects the specific elements of art and design are delivered discreetly.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Development of the whole child is a key principle of our school. We view Art and Design as an important medium for learning aesthetic and practical skills and as a vehicle for freedom of expression. Within our topic based curriculum, Art and Design also develops cultural awareness and understanding of the value of human differences and similarities. The subject offers visual, tactile and sensory experiences through which to explore spiritual values.

Teaching and Learning styles

Teaching and learning styles are drawn from the characteristics of strong pedagogy; our school uses a wide variety of teaching and learning styles in Art and Design. We ensure that the act of investigating and making includes exploring and developing ideas that are then evaluated to develop and improve outcomes. We do this by employing a mixture of whole class teaching and individual/group activities. Teachers draw attention to good examples of individual performance as models for other children. Children are encouraged to evaluate their own ideas and methods, and the work of others, and to say what they think and feel about them. We give children the opportunity within lessons to work both individually and to collaborate with others, on projects in two and three dimensions and on different scales. Children also have the opportunity to use a wide range of materials and resources to develop their skills, including ICT.

Assessment and Recording

All teachers have an outline of what the expectations are for every year group and they use this to both formally and informally assess pupils' on-going learning in art and design. Teachers assess work in Art and Design by making observations of the children working during lessons. They record progress made against the learning objectives for that lesson. At the end of a unit of work, children undertake a review of their work that focuses upon an evaluation of the finished product and an overview of the various tasks undertaken. Teachers make annual assessment of progress for

each child, as part of the annual report to parents. Each teacher passes this information on to the next teacher at the end of each year. Due to the practical nature of Art and Design, evidence of work undertaken by children can be in the form of teacher's notes or as a photographic record. Samples of the work and end product are valuable evidence for teacher assessment. The Art and Design subject leader can review evidence of the children's work through scrutiny of children's books, displays and photographs.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Art and Design subject leader will monitor the standard of children's work and the quality of teaching and learning in Art and Design. Monitoring and evaluating is mainly carried out by scrutiny of finished work and by talking to pupils. The subject leader is also responsible for:

- Supporting colleagues in their teaching.
- Keeping up to date with and communicating current developments in the subject to staff.
- Ensuring resources are available and appropriate to the needs of the staff.
- Ensuring Art and Design maintains a high profile within the school through displays.
- Working in conjunction with the rest of the staff to provide Art and Design input to the School Improvement Plan for School Improvement as appropriate.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources to support the teaching of Art and Design across the school. These are stored centrally in each Key Stage area, with additional resources being stored in the resource room, and in individual classrooms. Pupils are taught how to look after the resources and know how to clean and dry tools that they have used. The Art and Design subject leader is responsible for the acquisition of resources, as it is imperative that the correct resources are available for the intended purpose.

Health and safety

When working with different tools, equipment and materials in practical activities, pupils will be taught:

- the safe and appropriate use of equipment and materials for example scissors, glue guns and needles;
- to manage their environment to ensure health and safety of themselves and others.

Artwork is carried out in classrooms and both Key Stage areas. Children, teachers, teaching assistants and parents may all be involved in art activities, and will all follow appropriate Health and Safety Guidelines.

Written by Caroline Minoprio (Art and Design Subject Leader)

Date of last review: November 2019

Next review due: November 2022