



St Mary's CE Primary School



Art and Design Policy

(reviewed July 2025)

'... there is something extraordinary and wondrous in everybody as unique creations of God. We value all our children as children of God and celebrate difference and diversity within a safe, encouraging Christian school environment in which all flourish.

Therefore, all will aspire with God's strength to reach for the stars.

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

Art and Design Statement of Intent

It is our intent to give every child the opportunity to appreciate and explore creative work and techniques, developing a love and understanding of art and knowledge of significant artists.

At St Mary's CE Primary School, we are committed to providing all children with learning opportunities to engage in Art and Design. The purpose of Art and Design education is to give the pupils the skills, concepts and knowledge necessary for them to express their responses to ideas and experiences in a visual or tactile form. It fires their imagination and is fundamental to personal expression. While it is essentially a practical subject, art should provide opportunities for reflection and, with increasing sensitivity, pupils should acquire the ability to make informed, critical responses to their own work and that of others. There is a great pleasure to be derived from Art and Design and, through deeper understanding, pupils can gain access to cultural richness and diversity. The appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts enriches all our lives.

The aims of this policy are:

- To enable all children to have access to a varied range of high-quality art experiences
- To provide an imaginative, innovative and co-ordinated art programme which will foster enthusiasm for art and design amongst all children
- To foster an enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts and a knowledge of artists, craftspeople and designers, through links with the local and wider multicultural community
- To stimulate children's creativity and imagination by providing visual, tactile and sensory experience
- To help children explore the world first hand, using all of their senses and experimentation and so gain knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live
- To develop children's understanding of colour, form, texture, pattern and their ability to use materials and processes to communicate their idea, feelings and meanings

- To inspire confidence, value and pleasure in art
- To cultivate children's aesthetic awareness and enable them to make informed judgments about art and become actively involved in shaping environments
- To teach children to express their own ideas, feelings, thoughts and experiences
- To develop children's design capability
- To enhance children's ability to value the contribution made by artists, craft workers and designers and respond critically and imaginatively to ideas, images and objects.

Teaching and Learning

The Curriculum

The children will undertake a balanced programme that takes account of abilities, aptitudes and physical, emotional and intellectual development. Through Art and Design, the children learn a range of skills, concepts, attitudes, techniques and methods of working.

Early years

During the Early Years, young children will be given opportunities to explore colour, texture, shape and form in two and three dimensions. The children will have access to a wide range of constructions, collage, painting and drawing activities using appropriate tools and art materials. In order to tap their artistic potential, the children will be encouraged to develop their own creative ideas. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design, technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

Key Stage 1

During Key Stage 1, Art and Design aims to expand children's creativity and imagination through providing art, craft and design activities relating to the

children's own identity. Art experiences relate to natural and manufactured objects and materials with which they are familiar and in the locality in which they live.

- Children will explore the visual, tactile and sensory qualities of materials and processes and begin to understand the use of colour, shape and space, pattern and texture to represent their own ideas and feelings
- Children will focus on the work of artists, craftspeople and designers by asking and answering questions such as: 'What is it like?' 'What do I think about it?'

Key Stage 2

During Key Stage 2, Art and Design fosters children's creativity and imagination by building on their knowledge, skills and understanding of materials and processes, through providing more complex activities. Children's experiences help them to understand the diverse roles and functions of Art and Design around in the world around them.

We recognise the fact that we have children of differing ability in all of our classes and so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies which are differentiated by task, outcome or support.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

Teachers facilitate access to the Art and Design curriculum for all children through differentiation, adult support and adapting resources.

Planning

The curriculum followed by St Mary's is Access Art and is inserted into the curriculum where there are specific links if appropriate. A comprehensive online map provides detailed activities for each strand of Art, building on skills and knowledge as the children progress throughout school.

Appreciation of Art

Throughout the Key Stages pupils are given continuous opportunities to learn about great artists, architects and designers in history. They, compare, contrast and evaluate artists, studying a variety of techniques and processes. They become

increasingly able to reflect and discuss notable artists and works, often drawing inspiration from key art skills. With this developing skill, pupils build on their knowledge and understanding and broaden their art vocabulary.