

**OUR LADY & SAINT THOMAS RCVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



POLICY FOR ART & DESIGN

APRIL 2020

“We are unique, talented and loved by God”.



Subject Lead:	Mrs M. Fulton
Governor Lead:
REVIEW DATE:	April 2021

The rationale for English at Our Lady & Saint Thomas is that we believe that 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. Every child within our school will have full access to Art and Design as laid down in the National Curriculum regardless of age, gender or ability.

As a Rights Respecting School we uphold the articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. These articles underpin our Art policy:

Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Article 13

The child shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of the child's choice.

Article 31

The right for all children to have rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to their age and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.

Purpose

The purpose of Art and Design education is to give 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 a fundamental means of 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 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. At Our Lady & Saint Thomas we believe that the subject of Art provides a valuable educational, as well as social and cultural experiences, for children of all ages. Pupils develop life skills and have the chance to extend their knowledge of the work of a range of artists.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- 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 the 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 have knowledge of great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.
- To stimulate children's creativity and imagination by providing visual, tactile and sensory experience.
- To help children explore the world at first hand, using all 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 ideas, feelings and meanings.
- To become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques.
- To inspire confidence, value and pleasure in art.
- To cultivate children's aesthetic awareness and enable them to make informed judgements 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

Our Lady & Saint Thomas follows the revised National Curriculum for Art at Key stage 1 and 2. Art and Design Technology are taught in six week blocks across a two year cycle in order to ensure maximum coverage of both subjects in our mixed age range classes. All pupils have one lesson in Art or Design Technology every week and this is on Fridays when our classes are arranged into four classes instead of the usual five. Therefore Art is taught within:

EYFS

Y1/2

Y3/4

Y5/6

The focus within Art is based upon the progression of skills and whilst teachers do not necessarily link to topic teaching (this would be difficult within KS2) it can often link. Foundation Stage pupils will be taught and encouraged to use simple Art skills. The children will have a focus on one area each half term, covering topics of each subject throughout the two year academic year.

Curriculum

The children 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.

The two year cycle has been designed by all staff members to address the key areas of Art. Only the area of Art is detailed rather than specifics about what is being taught - that is the choice of the Class Teacher and may change according to events that happen within the world or specific areas the teacher wishes to cover. As the six week block is skills - based, the children will often work upon technique within their sketchbooks producing perhaps only one or two key pieces at the end of their topic as evidence of their progression. The coverage and delivery of Art will be monitored by the school's Subject Lead for Art, Mrs Fulton.

Early Years

During the Early Years, young children will be given the opportunity 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.

Key Stage 1

During Key Stage 1, Art and Design is about expanding children's creativity and imagination through providing art, craft and design activities relating to the children's own identity and experiences, to natural and manufactured objects and materials with which they are familiar, and the locality in which they live.

Children will explore the visual, tactile and sensory qualities of materials and processes and begin to understand and use colour, shape and space, pattern and texture, to represent their own ideas and feelings. They will focus on the work of artists, craftspeople, other cultures, and sculptors 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 is based around fostering 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 should help them to understand the diverse roles and functions of Art and Design in the world around them. Pupils learn to improve their use of tools and become confident in using a variety of techniques. Finally, they should be encouraged to increase their awareness of the purposes of art from historical periods and begin to ask themselves about the purpose, creation, materials and significance of a variety of art works.

Learning environment

Activities are organised at the teacher's discretion and according to the availability of materials. Art activities may be carried out individually, as a small or large group, or, more usually, as a whole class activity. Planning for art and design is provided for in medium and long-term plans and is monitored by the Subject Lead.

Use of Sketchbooks

Sketchbooks are used from Reception through to year 6 to regularly record, collect and explore ideas and images and other information relevant to current and ongoing work. The sketchbook is an essential and personal record although teachers will teach children when it is appropriate to use them and for what purposes including reviewing the contents to ensure the purpose of the sketchbook at frequent intervals. It is also essential that all children use a sketchbook that is similar in format.

The contents of the sketchbook could include:

Experiments with using various marking media drawings in a range of media that are:

1. A record of what has been seen
2. Preparatory studies for further work
3. The development of ideas for further study
4. A record of the basic skills development
5. Photographs and other illustrative material to support ongoing work
6. Colour schemes and trials
7. A record of observations seen outside the classroom which will be used as reference material for further work, for example on a school visit
8. Details of something that will be drawn or painted in entirety
9. ICT prints and image manipulations

Sketchbooks are an essential record of an individual child's experiences and ideas throughout a year and key stage and will be seen as evidence for assessment and reporting purposes.

Planning

Long Term planning was developed by the Subject lead in consultation with Class Teachers and is based upon a two year cycle, alternating with Design Technology. Class Teachers are free to move areas of Art around within the Yearly cycle but cannot move between each cycle.

More detailed planning is the responsibility of the Class Teacher and must be based upon the progression of year group appropriate skills (see Appendix 2) within a key area of Art (see Appendix 1). Teachers will produce their own, more detailed plans as they wish. We do not follow any particular scheme at OLST as teachers prefer the freedom designing their own six week block allows. The understanding of how to teach particular key skills is developed through discussion with the Subject Lead and occasionally, support from our secondary colleagues who have more specialist skills.

Progression

Progression is of skills we believe, is paramount to the teaching of Art at OLST. That is why our Long Term Plan is built around skills within each area of Art rather than an actual subject. Interwoven into our skills based lessons are the famous artists, sculptors and craftspeople which are masters of these skills.

Alongside our Long Term Plan is our skills progression document and this highlights progress from year to year in both application of skills and understanding of the subject. We recognise the fact that we have children of differing ability in all 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, expected outcome and/or support from peers or adults.

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

Whilst Art & Design is not planned to be linked to the areas of the Curriculum that each class covers, it may be of course, that there are occasions where it does. Art is used regularly to enhance much of our work across the whole Curriculum and while specific Art lessons are not addressed, Class Teachers may well draw attention to particular skills during other lessons. Certainly, Contribution of art in the core curriculum is essential. For example:

English

Art encourages children to ask questions about the starting points for their work. They learn to compare ideas and approaches and to express feelings.

Maths

Art allows children opportunities to develop their understanding of shape, pattern, space and dimensions.

Computing

I.T is used to support art and design teaching. Children use I.T software to explore shape, colour and pattern and it allows older children to develop their ideas using digital cameras and the internet. **PSHE** In art lessons children are taught to discuss how they feel about their own work and the work of others. For many of our PSHE lessons (also Phase based) Art is the way in which children can express their thoughts and emotions more freely.

SMSC

Art offers opportunities for social development. Working in groups allows children to learn from each other and to share ideas and feelings. Art helps them to develop a respect for the abilities of other children and encourages collaboration

Monitoring

Each child has an art sketchbook which serves as a cumulative record of their work and is passed on to the next teacher at the end of each year. Samples of children's work are also collected. Monitoring takes place regularly through sampling children's work and lesson observations.

Assessment

Assessment of children's work is carried out at the end of each six week block. Teachers mark against the Skills Progression Document for their KS phase. Evidence for making these judgments will be gathered through discussion and observation of the pupil during the lesson and by the child's recording of the activities, e.g. planning, designing, and photographing practical activities. The assessment of children's work is ongoing to ensure that skills are being taught, understanding is being achieved and progress is being made.

ICT

In addition, Art and Design provides the opportunity to develop the skills of ICT such as:

Creating designs using drawing packages

Recording using photographs using cameras and I Pads

Access the internet to research information / artists

Each classroom is fitted with an interactive whiteboard enabling the teacher to use video clips and demonstration programmes to enrich lessons.

Resources

There are a wide range of resources to support the teaching of art and design across the school. All classes have a range of basic resources kept in the classroom and some other equipment, including specialist books are kept centrally. The Art and Design Lead is responsible for the management of the resources; all staff are responsible for the organisation and maintenance of the resources. Visits are planned to enhance learning and give hands on activity. People with an interest, or expertise, in a particular topic or area of art may be invited into school to work with the children. These might be parents, grandparents, other family members, neighbours or representatives of the local community.

Equality of Opportunity

At OLST, we have high expectations for every child, whatever their background, ability or circumstances. We know that children learn best when they are healthy, safe and engaged. In order to engage all children, cultural diversity is celebrated. Our Art curriculum includes a wide range of subject matter which represents a variety of cultures and backgrounds. We value what each individual child brings to our school and all our children have access to the Art and Design curriculum, regardless of their ability, gender, physical disability or their social, cultural or ethnic background. Children with SEND will work towards the same objectives with support and appropriate differentiation

and provision is made to support individuals or groups of SEND children or those with a disability so that they can participate effectively in Art & Design lessons. Likewise, the more able will be provided with sufficient challenge to enable the greatest possible progress. As with every subject area in OLST, the children are encouraged to achieve as high a standard as possible within their ability.

Health and safety

Certain health and safety concerns are inherent with art, including the storage of materials and tools and the use of equipment within lessons. Children are instructed in the correct use of equipment and tools and the specific dangers of using heated or sharp resources. Children are supervised at all times during activities. A risk assessment covering the use of craft knives, saws and other sharp tools has been conducted and is updated as needed.

Displays

The school promotes the displaying of art work in classrooms. It can influence how children feel about their environment, convey standards and promote high expectations. We use displays to celebrate achievement and support teaching and learning. Displays should communicate ideas, stimulate interest, celebrate children's work, reflect the ethos of the school and respond to the children's interests.

Subject Lead

Our subject lead for Art & Design is Mrs Fulton. The subject lead is responsible for maintaining/improving the standards of teaching and learning in Art & Design by:

1. Produce the Art Policy and the Key Stage plans that meet the statutory requirements.
2. Overseeing and monitoring the continuity of the subject and the progression of teaching and learning within annual plans.
3. Monitoring the quality of teaching and the standard of work produced via learning walks and book scrutinies. Evidence will be kept from year to year.
4. Offering support to colleagues and sharing their expertise and experience. They will encourage staff and pupils to be creative and advise teachers on teaching methods they may wish to explore or provide advice to teachers or seek information to help support with appropriate resources and approaches to assessment
5. Produce the Art development plan with realistic and developmental targets .
6. Purchase and organise the appropriate art resources.
7. Attend relevant in service courses and feedback to staff new information and ideas.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Signed: *Madeleine Fulton*

Subject Lead

30th March 2020

Signed:

Governor with Responsibility for Art

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