

## **St Bridget's Art**

### **Intent**

At St Bridget's C of E Primary School, we want to develop the whole child as we want their lights to shine. We want our children to have no limits to what their ambitions are. Some will grow up to be illustrators, graphic designers, fashion designers or architects and we aim to do all we can to allow their lights to shine. Art allows children who do not excel in other areas to be creative. Many of our children feel more comfortable in Art lessons as there is no 'right answer' and they are free to explore their ideas without the threat of 'being wrong'.

'Some children excel in Art when they wouldn't necessarily in other subjects' (Year 3.4 teacher)

Art allows us to cover a variety of intents which supports the children of St Bridget's. They are:

**The whole child** – Art helps our children develop resilience and self-confidence. It is less prescribed than other subjects and children are often free to choose the direction they take. They then naturally ask themselves questions and solve problems as the work progresses. The children at St Bridget's are given opportunities to improve their work during their Art learning journey which helps develop their confidence and resilience. It is less academic than other subjects so offers our children a sense of nurturing.

Art allows the children of St Bridget's to think critically, many of whom struggle to do in other subjects. It helps our children to communicate visually about how they see and experience the world and how they feel about it. For many of our children, this is difficult to do verbally, but through Art they can achieve this.

**Skills** – At St Bridget's, we follow the Kapow scheme of work to teach Art in key stages 1 and 2. We chose Kapow because it links closely with our

school vision of 'Letting our Lights shine'. Kapow meets our aims and intentions. The scheme of work aims to inspire pupils and develop their confidence to experiment and invent their own works of art. The scheme is designed to give children every opportunity to develop their ability (by teaching them skills), nurture their talents and interests (regardless of their academic ability) and express their ideas and thoughts about the world. Kapow's scheme of work supports our children to meet the National Curriculum end of key stage attainment targets. At St Bridget's we have adapted the Kapow scheme of work to fit in with our local area by studying local artists (such as Percy Kelly). We have also adapted the scheme of work to fit in with our long-term plans.

**Knowledge-** At St Bridget's, we aim to help our children develop their knowledge of different artists (local, national, and international). We do this by studying a range of artists work during the art learning journey. Kapow's curriculum supports us with this as it allows us to develop our pupil's knowledge and understanding of key artists and art movements through the 'Every Picture tells a Story'Units. It also links to artists through practical work. We teach our children about artists in History (from different cultures and ages) and local artists (cultural capital). We do this because our local area is not multi-cultural and many of our children do not get the opportunity to leave the local area. We want our children to learn about different cultures and faiths and our Art curriculum allows us to teach them this. We also aim to develop our children's knowledge by visiting or looking at art galleries or museums online. This is because many of our children do not get the opportunities to visit such places. As well as giving our children the opportunity to study different artists' work, Kapow allows us to teach our children different techniques. The scheme also helps less confident members of staff by teaching them techniques and giving them knowledge of different artists.

**Awareness of self (emotional literacy)-** At St Bridget's, we have a large percentage of SEND children. Many of these children struggle to express their emotions. Art can be incredibly beneficial to a child's emotional development. Kapow gives our children experiences that involve

cooperating, collaborating, following directions, demonstrating self-control, and paying attention, which helps their emotional literacy and allows their lights to shine.

**Oracy and language-** At St Bridget's, we believe that all our children can achieve great things (letting their lights shine). We aim to build their confidence as well as their vocabulary. Art allows our children to develop widen their vocabulary. Art allows our children to provide running commentaries of their work as their ideas materialise on the paper in front of them. Our pupils will often offer evaluative comments of their own work and those around them; using oral communication to verbalise their imaginative thoughts, suggesting improvements, giving praise, working through problems, and fixing their mistakes. Whilst creating a piece of art, children are constantly self-evaluating. Kapow allows our children to constantly improve their work which in turn helps develop their oracy and language. At St Bridget's we have a spiral curriculum where we include a retrieval practice at the start of each lesson. As well as knowledge of artists, we include vocabulary so that children remember the vocabulary they have been previously taught.

## **Implementation**

Because we want every child's light to shine, we ensure high standards of teaching and learning in art. We implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Art is taught as part of a half-termly or termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At St Bridget's, we ensure that art is given the same importance as the core subjects, as we feel this is important in enabling all children to gain 'real-life' experiences.

As a school, we follow the Kapow scheme of work to teach art in key stages 1 and 2. Kapow meets our aims and intentions in several ways. This scheme of work support pupils to meet end of key stage requirements as outlined in the National Curriculum. The scheme of work aims to inspire pupils and develop their confidence to experiment and invent their own works of art. Kapow also supports teachers who may lack confidence in their own ability by providing 'teacher videos' to develop subject knowledge and offering opportunities for CPD. This ensures that the delivery of art in our school is of the highest quality.

Kapow has been designed with five strands that run throughout each unit of work. These are – making skills, formal elements, knowledge of artists and evaluating. These strands are revisited in every unit. Key skills are revisited again and again with increasing complexity. This allows our children to build on their previous learning and supports our spiral curriculum. Kapow also supports us in teaching the children of St Bridget's 'tier 2 vocabulary' by providing staff with key vocabulary for each unit. Teachers reinforce this by displaying the vocabulary and by revisiting it as part of the retrieval practice at the start of each lesson. The children also complete an end of unit quiz which contains questions about vocabulary.

At St Bridget's, we make cross-curricular and topic links where possible. We have therefore adapted the Kapow scheme of learning to fit in with our long-term plans by selecting units that fit in with our topics. For

example, when year 1/2 study the Great Fire of London, they complete printing linked to the topic and when year 3/4 study The Stone Age, they study pre-Historic art.

In our school, we like to offer the children an opportunity to use a wide range of media such as painting, printing, and using technology. We want our children to understand that art is more than colouring, it is an opportunity to work from imagination and observation through painting, drawing, printing, ceramics, and computing. We want our children who struggle to express their emotions or those who struggle in other areas to excel and art and Kapow gives them the opportunity to do this. Art helps the children of St Bridget's to develop their resilience and problem-solving skills by allowing them to evaluate, edit and improve their work.

Educational visits are another opportunity for the teachers to plan for additional art learning outside the classroom. At St Bridget's, we try to visit local museums and art galleries either in person or online. This allows our children to learn about artists in History (from different cultures and ages) and local artists. We also take part in a cluster art project where primary and secondary schools from the Whitehaven cluster complete a project that is displayed in The Beacon. We encourage our children to visit The Beacon to see their artwork with their families.