



At St Michael's CE School, we recognise that Art and Design plays a vital role in our curriculum: stimulating imagination, creativity and self-expression to develop alongside resilience, confidence and critical thinking skills. Art and Design promotes careful observation and helps children develop a natural sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them. We explore a wide range of media and techniques to encourage our children to communicate what they see, think and feel through the use of the elements of colour, texture, form and pattern. We embrace the works of artists from around the world and from different time periods and cultures, teaching children to develop critical thinking and to appreciate, be inspired by and learn from the skills of others. We ask children to challenge themselves, using sketching and planning to explore ideas and for them to look back reflectively, making adaptations and developing their skills as they work. Through painting, drawing, and sculpture, children explore a range of starting points and inspirations, developing the confidence to experiment and understand that there is no set way to produce artistic pieces, it is a subjective expression of their ideas. While it is essentially a practical subject, art provides opportunities for reflection and, with increasing sensitivity, pupils acquire the ability to make informed, critical responses of their own work and that of others. We aim to foster individuality and creativeness that flows through everything they do.

BIG IDEAS

INSPIRATION – I am an Artist because I am **inspired** by great artists and creative works from different times and places.

EXPERIMENTATION – I am an Artist because I **explore** a range of skills, tools and materials. I reflect upon, adapt and develop my skills.

EXPRESSION – I am an Artist because I use my creativity to **express** my individuality. I use my ideas, thoughts and feelings to represent the world around me.



What you will see in our lessons?

Our Art curriculum at St. Michael's is rooted firmly within the National Curriculum Programs of Study and provides a wide ranging and balanced approach; encouraging children to think critically and develop a rigorous understanding of Art and Design. We repeated provide opportunities for our pupils to develop skills and explore a range of tools and techniques promoting individual creativity and confidence to express their thoughts and ideas.

Art is taught throughout the school, allowing children of all ages to extend their skills as they grow. As a practical subject, every opportunity is given to experiment with different ideas and concepts while encouraging children's own interpretation of ideas. Each year group use sketchbooks to allow children the freedom to experiment with techniques, styles and skills which they can draw upon when creating their own Artworks.

Each year group look at the work of an artist in depth exposing children to a variety of styles and periods throughout Art history to build their knowledge and inspire their thinking.

Key skills of drawing and painting are taught to each year group helping children's skills to progress and develop. Other key skills of collage, sculpture, printing and textiles are taught and revisited several times across the Key Stages.

Although Art is taught as a discrete subject, it is often incorporated within other areas of the curriculum as appropriate. The skills and knowledge that the children build and develop allow them to confidently apply this creativity into other subject areas.

Children leave St. Michael's being confident to explore their creativity, to express their own thoughts and ideas and evaluate and analyse Artworks using the language of Art and Design.