

The Art & Design Curriculum

INTENT

Art, craft and design stimulate creativity and imagination. It provides a wealth of visual, tactile and sensory experiences for children alongside a unique way of understanding themselves and the world in which they live. At Mark First & Pre-school CE Academy we aim to enable children to communicate, investigate, make sense of, question and evaluate what they observe and perceive in increasingly creative ways. We aim to plan high quality Art & Design provision to meet the needs of all children, including those with SEND and those who are from disadvantaged backgrounds. We ensure teaching and learning is fully inclusive and reasonable adjustments are made to enable all children to access Quality First Teaching.

In the Reception year, the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum provides the basis for teaching and learning opportunities. Activities and practical experiences develop an understanding of the world.

Throughout Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, our Art & Design teaching follows the National Curriculum guidelines. This includes:

- Producing creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- Becoming proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
- Evaluating and analysing creative works using the language of art, craft and design
- Learning about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms

Through quality teaching, our aim is to provide a wealth of positive experiences to develop and nurture a love of art, craft and design in our children. Teachers encourage children to think and question the world and will adapt plans to investigate specific interests of the class, whilst linking with the National Curriculum objectives and ensuring progression.

IMPLEMENTATION

In Reception, the children's learning includes art, music, dance, role-play and imaginative play. We enable children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings. We provide a rich and stimulating environment in which we encourage and value creativity. Our pupils develop their creativity and imagination by exploring the visual, tactile and sensory qualities of materials.

They learn about the role of art and craft in their environment and begin to understand colour, shape, space, pattern and texture. Art & Design is taught through both adult planned and child-initiated experiences. Thoughtful and skilled questioning encourages children to pursue lines of enquiry through free play.

In Key Stage One children begin to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products, and begin to develop their use of sketchbooks for recording and annotating their work. We encourage the children to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination. They also start to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. Children learn

about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

Our Art & Design plans are linked to our Inquiry units for each term and are progressive which enable teachers to adjust plans to meet the needs and interests of individuals or groups of children. Units of work are selected and planned to ensure a broad balance of materials, skills, knowledge and understanding and progression throughout each key stage. Art activities are supported by focused practical tasks and work involving high quality primary and secondary resources.

In Key Stage 2 children are taught to further develop and extend their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity and freedom to experiment. Pupils have sketch books to record their observations and use these to review and revisit ideas. We help children to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials (for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay). The children continue to learn about great artists, architects and designers in history.

IMPACT

Art & Design is assessed against the EYFS statements and the learning objectives within the 2014 National Curriculum for each year group. Staff track pupil's progress and attainment and plan appropriate learning experiences that build on previous learning. In Art & Design we also assess by:

- Talking to the pupils and asking questions
- Discussing work with the pupils
- Looking at pupils' work and marking against the learning objective
- Observing pupils carrying out Art & Design tasks
- Pupils self-evaluating their own work