

Art and Design at Ashmole Primary School



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Intent

At Ashmole Primary School our Art and Design curriculum supports our vision of delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. We believe that Art and design should be creative, imaginative and fully inclusive to every child at our school. Our high-quality Art and Design education fulfils the National Curriculum requirements and always aims to engage, inspire and challenge pupils. It provides visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a way of understanding and responding to the world. Our planning enables children to communicate what they see, feel and think, through the use of colour, texture, line, form, pattern and different materials and processes. The children are introduced to the work of a wide variety of artists, craftspeople and designers and experience a range of practical activities using different media to explore colour, texture and technique in both 2D and 3D forms. Through learning about the roles and functions of art, they can explore the impact it has had on contemporary life and on different periods and cultures. The appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts enrich all our lives. As pupils progress in this subject, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of Art and Design. Using these skills, the children learn to make informed judgements and aesthetic and practical decisions. Through the progressive development of knowledge and skills across the year groups we strive to constantly build on and develop the brilliant opportunities for creativity introduced in EYFS. As a school our intention is to consistently develop a cross-curricular approach to the use of Art and Design across the curriculum ensuring that there are clear links between subjects.

The National Curriculum for Art and Design aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.
- Become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques.
- Evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.
- Know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

Implementation

At Ashmole Primary School we use a variety of teaching and learning styles in Art and Design lessons. Our principal aim is to develop the children's knowledge, skills and understanding in view of fostering creativity. We ensure that the act of investigating and making something includes exploring and developing ideas, and evaluating and developing work. We do this through a mixture of whole-class teaching and individual or group activities. Teachers draw attention to good examples of individual performance as models for the other children. They encourage children to evaluate their own ideas and methods, and the work of others, and to say what they think and feel about them. We give children the opportunity to work, by themselves and in collaboration with others, on projects in two and three dimensions, and at different scales. Children also have the opportunity to use a wide range of materials and resources, including Computing.

Art is a foundation subject, which is taught as a subject in its own right, however by its nature it supports and enhances subjects across the curriculum. We plan the activities in Art and Design so that they build on the children's prior learning. While we give children of all abilities the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding, we also plan progression into the scheme of work, so that there is increasing challenge and development of skills as children move up through the school. We ensure that for each Art and Design lesson there is a clear, skills-based learning objective with a clear outcome, always encouraging and giving pupils the opportunity to be challenged and explore further. In all topics, skills are practised and developed through the use of sketchbooks and preparatory studies. Pupils are able to see their own progress by reflecting on their sketchbooks across a lesson, a project, or the academic year. When planning each unit of work, teachers ensure that children are given the opportunity to examine and analyse the work of famous artists, craftspeople and designers linked to their project. They also respond to a range of artwork created by famous Artists using their own language and the language of Art and Design. Our school curriculum has been carefully planned to enable children to build upon their skills and knowledge year on year.

Impact

At Ashmole Primary School, every Art and Design lesson has a clear objective and set outcomes for pupils in terms of a skills acquisition. We use a wide range of sources to inform our judgements when assessing the pupils including: observations of work during lessons; interaction with pupils during discussions and related questioning; day-to-day observations; the pupils' artwork and sketchbooks; and pupils' written responses and evaluations which are completed at the end of each unit of work. The learning outcomes in each unit are used to assess what the children have learnt, and the work produced serves as a record of their progress and development and enables teachers to make a judgement against the National Curriculum expectations.

In every year group at the end of each term, we make a summative judgement about the achievement of each pupil. This process requires teachers to decide upon a 'best fit' judgement as to whether the pupil has achieved and embedded the expected learning goals, exceeded expectations or is still working towards the goals. These decisions are based on the professional knowledge and judgement that teachers possess about the progress of each pupil, developed over the previous three terms, which allows an informed and holistic judgement of attainment to be made. Achievement against the learning goals for Art and Design at the end of the year is used as the basis of reporting progress to parents.