



Westwood Primary School

Art and Design Policy

Reviewed: June 2015

Next Review: June 2018

*Respecting each other,
Expecting our best,
Learning in a happy school.*

Art and Design Policy

"Art develops spiritual values and contributes a wider understanding to the experience of life, which helps to build a balanced personality."

Bridget Riley, Painter

"Art and design is not just a subject to learn, but an activity that you can practise: with your hands, your eyes, your whole personality."

Quentin Blake, First Children's Laureate

Rationale

Art and Design stimulates creativity and imagination. It provides visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a unique way of understanding and responding to the world. Pupils use colour, form, texture, pattern and different materials and processes to communicate what they see, feel and think. Through art and design activities, they learn to make informed value judgements and aesthetic and practical decisions, becoming actively involved in shaping environments. They explore ideas and meanings in the work of artists, craftspeople and designers. They learn about the diverse role and functions of art, craft and design in contemporary life, and in different times and cultures. Understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts have the power to enrich our personal and public lives.

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Aims and Objectives

- To provide a broad and balanced learning experience for all children.
- To foster individual creative ability and develop the technical skills necessary to help each child to fulfill their potential in art and design.
- To develop children's visual awareness and visual literacy.
- To develop children's understanding of the visual elements of art and design (i.e. line, tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape, three-dimensional form).
- To develop children's critical abilities and understanding of their own and others' cultural heritages, including those which exemplify their sustainable lifestyle through art.
- To provide opportunities for children to use artistic media to acquire skills and develop techniques in the processes of drawing, painting, printing, modelling, constructing and digital media.
- To provide activities which nurture enjoyment, excitement and interest in art and design.
- To provide opportunities for children to use art to record inner feelings and express their creative imagination.
- To encourage individual interpretation and freedom of expression.

Organisation

Approximately 20 hours per class, per year is dedicated to the exclusive teaching of the subject of art and design according to the requirements of The National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. During this time children will learn to explore and develop ideas; investigate and make art, craft and design; and evaluate and develop work. They will acquire knowledge and understanding about visual and tactile elements, materials and processes, and the work of artists, craftspeople and designers in different times and cultures.

The knowledge, skills and understanding requirements of The National Curriculum will be taught through providing children with opportunities for exploring a range of starting points for practical work; working on their own, and collaborating with others on projects in two and three dimensions and on different scales; using a range of materials and processes, including ICT; and investigating different kinds of art, craft and design (with an emphasis on investigating work in the locality and in a variety of genres, styles and traditions in Key Stage 2).

Children in the Foundation Stage will be given regular opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in art and design in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

We are currently introducing the Chris Quigley Essentials Curriculum which covers Art and Design. This lists the essential characteristics of artists, essential opportunities at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 and essential learning objectives. This will ensure balanced coverage of the Early Years Foundation Stage and National Curriculum requirements, whilst enabling teachers to decide on the subject matter for the teaching of new knowledge, skills and understanding. Cross-curricular links will be made wherever possible in order that art and design may contribute to the teaching of other subjects.

Teaching and Learning

A variety of teaching and learning styles will be utilised in art and design lessons. A combination of whole-class teaching and individual or group activities will be implemented according to the needs of the children and the requirements of each unit of work.

Visiting artists and trips to art galleries, museums and exhibitions will be planned as appropriate and will serve to enrich the learning experience of the children.

Differentiation

Suitable learning opportunities in art and design will be provided for all children regardless of ability. A range of strategies will be implemented as appropriate to ensure that each child is enabled to achieve their maximum potential. For example:

- Planning open-ended activities which invite a variety of responses and outcomes.
- Providing a range of challenges which match the abilities of all children in each class.
- Providing small group or one-to-one adult support as necessary.
- Grouping children of similar levels of ability or mixed ability in order to encourage peer support.

Equal Opportunities

The culture and ethos of the school are such that everyone in the school community, whatever their ability/disability, race, colour, ethnic origin, religion, age, sexuality or gender, is equally valued and treated with respect. There is also a commitment to ensuring that stereotyping in relation to the ability/disability, race, colour, ethnic origin, religion, age, sexuality or gender of any artists being studied is avoided. All children will be provided with opportunities to experience, understand and celebrate diversity through the subject of art and design.

Resources

The subject leader is provided with an annual budget to purchase art and design resources. General stock is maintained as necessary and each class teacher and the HLTA is given the opportunity to request resources that specifically relate to their planning.

Resources are stored centrally in the art room which is monitored by the subject leader.

Health and Safety

Class teachers and/or the HLTA will take reasonable steps to ensure the health and safety of children in art and design lessons. They will carry out risk assessments for visits and experiences as necessary.

When working with tools, equipment and materials, in practical activities and in different environments, including those that are unfamiliar children will be taught:

- About hazards, risks and risk control.
- To recognize hazards, assess consequent risks and take steps to control the risks to themselves and others.
- To use information to assess the immediate and cumulative risks.
- To manage their environment to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others.
- To explain the steps they take to control risks.

Monitoring and Assessment

Assessment for learning will take place as appropriate in the context of each Key Stage.

Class teachers and/or the HLTA will use the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and Chris Quigley essentials for progress and milestones to assess children's progress throughout the year. Children's achievements at the end of each year will be reported to parents.

Evidence of coverage of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and The National Curriculum will be gathered and stored in individual portfolios of work.

The subject leader will monitor planning and assessment and will keep a portfolio of examples in school. This portfolio will also contain samples of children's work, photographs of displays and details of INSET.

ICT

The value of ICT as an important tool for learning in art and design is acknowledged and promoted. Software installed on the school network, video recorders, cameras, projectors in addition to art and design websites on the internet contribute a further dimension in the provision of an enriched art and design curriculum and these resources will be utilised as appropriate by each class teacher and/or the HLTA.

Display and Presentation

Staff will display art and design work in their classrooms, in designated areas of the school building and on the internet as a means of communicating to children that their efforts are valued and respected.

Occasional exhibitions of work will be organised by the subject leader in order to share the children's learning with a wider audience.