

# Ashmole Primary School



## Art and Design Policy

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## THE AIMS OF ART AND DESIGN EDUCATION

At Ashmole Primary school we aim for all children to:-

1. **Be visually literate:** To enable children to observe, understand, make meaning of what they see and communicate their ideas by using and creating visuals.
2. **Develop artistic skills:** To enable children to develop their natural abilities and potential, to acquire techniques, and to practice the skills necessary for creative expression, inventiveness and individuality through different art forms: sketching, painting, printing, collage, textiles and sculpture. This is underpinned by the Convention for the Rights of the Child (CRC) article 31: *Children have the right to join in a wide range of artistic activities.*
3. **Be critical:** To enable children to be critical in evaluating their own and others art work, making use of art vocabulary so that they can be actively involved in the development and appraisal of their own work.
4. **Generate ideas:** To enable children to develop their imagination and confidence in creating art by exploring, clarifying, expressing ideas, feelings and experiences through a range of art activities. *Children's education should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest (CRC article 29).*
5. **Be appreciative:** To develop the children's awareness of, sensitivity to and appreciation of the visual, aural, tactile and spatial qualities in the environment.
6. **Foster an enjoyment:** To enable the children to experience the excitement and fulfilment of creativity and the achievement of potential through art activities.
7. **Be knowledgeable:** To enable children to learn of and explore the work of artists, craftspeople and designers, both past and present and apply what they have learnt in an imaginative way to inform their own work.
8. **Develop observational skills:** To enable children to record from first-hand experience and observe their subject matter in detail and with precision.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

The New Art National Curriculum forms the basis of Ashmole Primary's Art curriculum as it provides a good starting point for teacher's planning and can be interpreted flexibly. At Ashmole Primary school, we encourage art to be taught cross curricular through a topic approach, allowing children to use their creative knowledge and skills over all subject areas.

Art is taught by the class teacher and all art activities planned for relate to the class topic itself and build upon the prior learning of the children.

Through art and design, the children learn a range of skills, concepts, techniques and methods of working. For example, the teaching of art across the school includes a range of practical work

through sketching, painting, printing, collage, textiles and three-dimensional work, teacher exposition, class discussions, use of ICT, visits to museums, first-hand observational work, investigative work, collaborative and individual work, and through working with artists and crafts people.

Teachers are encouraged to provide children with a stimulating environment that represents a range of learning experiences, for example, by displaying the children's artwork in classrooms and communal areas, fostering children's self-confidence, sense of achievement and engagement in the discussion and making of art.

We ensure continuity and progression by ensuring that the act of investigating and making includes exploring ideas, evaluating and developing work. Children are encouraged to say what they think and feel about their own work and that of others.

We ensure that every child within the school receives an equal opportunity within art and design activities, regardless of race, gender, ability or Special Educational Needs. Any children who require additional support are provided with suitable learning opportunities by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies which are differentiated by task, expected outcome and/or support from peers or adults.

Pupils who are Gifted and Talented within Art are offered the same curriculum as all other children, however they may work on activities at an extended level, using support staff and the Art Coordinator to give extra guidance where appropriate.

### **Record keeping, assessment and monitoring**

The assessment of art takes place on a termly basis and is used to inform planning, children's progress and to facilitate differentiation. All Art and Design activities are used to assist teachers in making formative and summative assessments. Teachers use a range of evidence when assessing children's art work; individual sketchbooks, finished products and photographs.

The Art Coordinator monitors the progress, standard of children's work and the quality of teaching in art across the school through sampling children's work, assessment data, teacher planning and sketchbook scrutiny. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of art, being informed about current developments and competitions in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

Teachers are encouraged to offer feedback to pupils whilst they are working, praising aspects that meet the objective and giving reasons why. When giving feedback, teachers need to bear in mind that art judgement can be very subjective. Parents receive written information about children's learning and progress in Art and Design as part of their child's end of year report.

We also encourage all children to take responsibility for their own and others learning. For example, children have opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their own work and the work of others – peers, professional artists (past and present). Through these, both children and teachers are able to recognise the progress being made.

Wherever possible, we seek to support the reflective process through visits to galleries. This introduces children to new skills and techniques and helps develop their visual appreciation.

There are a wide range of resources to support the teaching of Art and Design across the school. All classes have a range of basic resources kept in the classroom as well as a central store of materials and equipment. It is the responsibility of all staff to keep the central store tidy and organised.

Art visits are planned to enhance the children's learning and skills. The school welcomes anyone with an interest, or expertise, in a particular topic or area of art to work with the children, for example, family members, artists or representatives of the local community.

Teachers are encouraged to put up good displays of the children's artwork in classrooms and communal areas. They act to stimulate interest and set high expectations of children's achievement, their creative development, the range of media and art skills the children have learnt and allows the children to value and respond to the work of their peers. Examples of all abilities of work from children are displayed in our school.

The displays at Ashmole are informative, prompt questions and act as a vehicle to show progress over a topic of work. Displays grow and change in the classroom and communal areas on an ongoing basis reflecting projects and current work.

**This policy is monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every two years, or before if necessary.**