Art and Design

Our Art and Design curriculum is coherently planned to ensure pupil's personal development in creativity, independence and curiosity about the world around them. The curriculum focuses on mastering formal artistic techniques and aims to engage, inspire and challenge pupils. It provides them with opportunities to develop a range of ways in which they can share and express their individual creativity whilst learning about a range of different types of art in our society.

Approach of the units of work:

We teach a skills-based Art and Design curriculum, with each unit linked to another key curriculum area. Children are encouraged to express their creative imagination in lessons and are provided with opportunities to practise and develop mastery in the key elements of art and design: drawing, painting, collage, printing, textiles and sculpture. Each year group also studies key artists and develops knowledge of their work, producing a piece of work inspired by the chosen artist.

Lessons are taught in half term blocks with a focus on the key skills from the National Curriculum. Children are given opportunities to develop these skills in a variety of ways before producing a final piece of work. Evidence of the development of these skills are collected in sketch books which move through school with the children. Larger final pieces are photographed and also kept within these books.

Progression

The core artistic elements; drawing, collage, sculpture, painting, printing and textiles are developed in each key stage with pupils mastering these by the end of KS2. All pupils work on the same core tasks in lessons with support where needed. Those that grasp techniques and concepts quickly are encouraged to develop and perfect their final pieces with intricacy. Those pupils that are not sufficiently confident may be targeted for extra support. There are clear progression documents which show where the skills and knowledge are introduced then revisited in different units and in different contexts. This enables progression to be identified, planned for, developed and monitored. Progression is also planned and measured when studying famous artists and their work and by the end of KS2 pupils will be able to, for example, give detailed observations and offer facts about notable artists and use key vocabulary to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's knowledge, understanding and skills in Art and Design through observations of children working. Feedback is given verbally and children's understanding assessed through informal conversations. Each unit links to the National Curriculum and our progression framework from which teachers assess against. Opportunities are available in each phase to revisit and master skills.