

Crossley Street Primary School

Art and Design Curriculum Overview

Intent:

At Crossley Street Primary School, we meet the requirements of the National Curriculum by providing all children with a broad, balanced, engaging and practical Art and Design programme of study, which prepares them for life beyond primary education. We place a great emphasis on the importance of Art and Design, as it enables children to express themselves in a creative, imaginative manner, be inspired and challenged, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. We intend to teach the children a skills-based curriculum, with individuality and creativeness flowing through everything they do; giving them freedom to explore art using their imagination and initiative, which is one of our curriculum drivers. Our teaching sequence allows children to cumulatively build knowledge and skills. As children progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of Art and Design. They should also know how this shapes our history, and contributes to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

Implementation:

Our Art and Design Curriculum is high quality, carefully considered and planned to demonstrate and ensure progression of skills; while being supplemented by whole school workshops and visiting experts who enhance the learning experience. Within the curriculum, Art and Design is taught both as an individual subject and integrated within other areas of the curriculum. The basis for teaching Art and Design in Key Stage 1 and 2 is focused on the key skills and National Curriculum Programmes of Study of drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and textiles. Key Stage 1 and 2 classes work within these areas showing a clear progression of skills, as identified in our year group specific Knowledge and Skills Organisers. Children are introduced to a range of artwork and develop knowledge of the styles used by famous artists, architects, craft makers and designers, including those from a range of cultures and civilisations from around the world. They lead children to a greater understanding of different ways of life and a respect for cultures that are very different from our own, this also links to our diversity curriculum driver. Children are inspired to produce their own creative work as a result, for example, the study of Georges Seurat in Year 3, whereby children create their own painting in this artist's pointillism style; the study of Takashi Murakami in Year 2, when children create their own drawings using a variety of media and the study of Jon Gunnar Arnason in Year 5, when children design and make their own Viking long boats. EYFS have 3 main areas linking to art skills: colour mixing, using tools correctly and clay modelling. This is taught through skills-based activities and spaced repetition.

Our vast outdoor space is often used during lessons, such as for the Year 3 topic of nature sculptures. Every child from Year 1 - 6 has their own individual sketch book, where they can record their observations and use them to collect, review and revisit their ideas. Lessons are planned to ensure that there are no barriers to learning, so all children, including those who are disadvantaged or have SEND, achieve the intended outcomes. Often children who have difficulties with reading, writing and mathematics, find the arts more manageable and are able to express themselves more easily. Art allows children to relax and have an opportunity to be creative, which helps develop their personal wellbeing and growth.

Impact:

We monitor and measure the impact of our Art and Design curriculum in several ways. As subject leader, learning walks and book scrutiny are used to assess the impact of quality first teaching. Pupil voice is also used to hear feedback from children to ensure that our curriculum continues to engage and inspire. Teachers use their year group's Knowledge and Skills Organiser to assess children's skills, which is then collated within the foundation subject assessment trackers.

By the end of their time at Crossley Street Primary School, children will be become creative learners, who have a web of knowledge about the great artists, architects, craft makers and designers of the world. Celebration of the children's artwork is extremely important. The children are highly creative, which can be seen from displays around school and in class. Whole school art exhibitions play an important part in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, such as selling children's artwork for charity or creating whole class pieces on behalf of the PTA for the school fairs. We regularly enter art competitions such as 'Leeds in Bloom', which helps us to develop links with the community and wider environment, another of our curriculum drivers. The annual 'Ethan Ivers Award' continues to recognise achievements in art. One child who has shown outstanding effort or talent for art is presented with this award, per year. The winning child's artwork is displayed in the entrance of school, as a continual legacy.

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