

## Art Curriculum Statement

### **Intent**

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, our aim is to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Art by providing a progressive and diverse curriculum. We will promote a love of art by delivering high-quality lessons that will inspire children to think innovatively and develop creative understanding.

Through the diverse curriculum we will challenge pupils to develop their critical and individual thinking. At St Mary's we believe our children should have the freedom of thought and expression. We aim to produce confident, creative artists, who are able to freely express an opinion around their own, peers and renowned artists' work.

Our curriculum allows the children to develop knowledge and skills in:

- Painting.
- Drawing.
- Printing.
- 3D sculptor.
- Textiles.
- Pneumatics.
- Digital Technology
- CAD systems

The skills they acquire are applied to their cross-curricular topics, allowing children to reflect on and explore topics in greater depth; for example, by sketching historical artefacts in detail, researching geographical locations to support their work, annotated sketches in DT and Science and using art as a medium to express emotion and thought to enhance their personal, social and emotional development.

It is paramount that art work be purposeful; be this as a means of expression or to explore the styles of other artists that inspire our own work.

Through the Art curriculum, children are expected to be reflective and evaluate their work, thinking about how they can make changes and keep improving. Children are encouraged to take risks and experiment, then reflect on their work, addressing why some ideas and techniques may work better than others.

## **Implementation**

Reception class explore art through the Expressive Art and Design strand of the Early Years Curriculum; they observe and explore art – developing ideas. Through exploration they will learn about colour, texture and scale, whilst increasing their fine motor skills and independent thinking.

In Key Stage One and Two our carefully designed, progressive curriculum allows the children to build their knowledge and skills. The diverse curriculum introduces pupils to a wide range of artists and artistic styles, extending their horizons.

Through a carefully planned series of lessons, a unit of art is taught in two main areas:

### **Art as an Observer.**

- Pupils will first observe art similar to what they will be taught. For example, if they were learning abstract art, they will observe various compositions in this style from a range of artists.
- Pupils develop their independent and critical thinking through discussion of the observed art.
- Pupils express openly and honestly, their opinions on the art they are observing.
- Pupils explore how a composition is put together through observing: colour, texture, form, scale, perspective and light and shade.

### **Art as a doer.**

- Pupils are taught skills required for a specific unit of work and given time and opportunity to practise and develop these.
- Pupils experiment with textures, colours and design.
- Pupils make creative choices around composition, medium, colour and texture, from the knowledge they have gained.
- Pupils will critically assess their work against planned outcomes.

Teachers have identified five non-negotiable facts that the pupils need to know by the end of a unit. These facts are the foundation of our planning and they are constantly referred to throughout a unit of work.

Wherever possible, we will develop links to the pupils learning experiences by having educational visits to art galleries, or learning outdoors by sketching what is around them. For example; seascapes and a visit to the coast. Pupils will have access to after school clubs.

Pupils work will be recorded in sketch books and portfolios. Teaching will plan for a final piece of art work to be celebrated and displayed, and wherever possible we will display pupil's works in the wider community, including at our local Church.

To ensure high quality teaching of art, staff will attend CPD to ensure they can effectively teach the skills needed to produce art.

**Impact**

- Pupils have participated in a diverse curriculum, in which they build knowledge and skills year on year.
- Pupils make key links in knowledge to other areas of learning.
- Pupils will be able to form and justify their opinions.
- Pupils will be able to confidently make creative choices.
- Pupils will be able to critically think and evaluate work.