

ART

'Art is a place for children to learn to trust their ideas, themselves and to explore what is possible.'
MaryAnn F. Kohl

Intent

At St Katharine's our art curriculum develops creativity, sets challenges, engages and inspires children and provides them with the knowledge and key skills to experiment and create their own works of art, craft and design. Our Art curriculum provides children with opportunities to develop their skills using a range of media and materials. Children will be introduced to a range of works and develop knowledge of the styles and vocabulary used by famous artists. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a rigorous understanding of Art and Design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture and creativity of the world that we live in.

Implementation

Art is taught as part of our Blocked Curriculum (*Art, Art, Geography, Art and Design Technology*). Each year group will have two blocks of Art learning (3 weeks per block) each year. Using our mapped overview plans, teachers plan a sequence of lessons across the block clearly setting out what is to be learnt and how each lesson builds on the one before it. Because we teach in mixed classes we operate a Year A/B plan to ensure that curriculum content is not repeated. Teachers are skilled at matching the learning to the children in their care. Using carefully written knowledge and skills maps (*Chris Quigley milestones*) we can plan to meet the needs of each year group albeit that their learning is organised under the same theme.

Knowledge Organisers, written to accompany the block of learning, are shared with parents and children at the start of a unit of teaching.

Employing strategies that are low stakes and low threat, such the use of quizzes and mini tests, teachers seek to ensure that knowledge is retained, returning also to previous knowledge to help children commit what they have learnt to long term memory.

Art teaching will always include practical hands-on opportunities to develop a range of artistic skills that build to towards a finished piece or pieces. Children develop ideas and techniques in sketch books, annotating ideas where appropriate to show how their ideas have progressed and how they have arrived at a finished piece. Teachers include reference to artists and artistic movements in their teaching for e.g. *The Impressionists* and help children to see how art has changed over time and within historical periods and some of the significant artists that helped to shape change.

Our blocked curriculum overview document sets out the blocks of learning across each year and across the school. This document shows, where relevant, how Art blocks may at times complement the learning in other areas. At other times Art sits as a discreet subject for its own sake. In addition to this we have written a Subject Journey which shows clearly how Art themes are returned to and built on across Key Stages 1 and 2. Our knowledge and concepts map sets out the explicit content of each block of Art learning, enabling staff to clearly see what came before and what comes next, building on previous learning, revisiting and deepening skills as well as strengthening knowledge.

Impact

Children enjoy their learning in art and across the curriculum. Children use the skills, knowledge and processes they have been taught so that they become more proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques. Children understand that art is a process that involves experimentation and exploration and that their ideas can be developed through the use of sketch books. Children have the opportunity to produce pieces of high-quality finished work that

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bring a sense of pride and achievement and a chance for them to grow and appreciate their individuality as artists.