

St Margaret's C of E Primary School



Create Policy

Reviewer: Mrs Amy Arkinstall

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INTENT

At St. Margaret's CE Primary School, our Christian vision **Created to Shine** and our values of **Love** and **Aspire** guide how we create a safe, respectful and flourishing learning environment. Through Art and Design, we aim to inspire every child to develop as a creative, confident and reflective individual who is able to express ideas, emotions and beliefs through visual means. In line with the National Curriculum, pupils are given opportunities to produce creative work, explore and develop ideas, become proficient in a range of artistic techniques, and evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.

Through a carefully sequenced progression of drawing, painting, printing, textiles, collage and 3D work, pupils develop both technical skill and creative confidence, learning to experiment, take risks and communicate visually with increasing sophistication. Children encounter a diverse range of artists, designers and craft makers from different cultures, periods and traditions, broadening their understanding of the world and inspiring their own creativity. They learn to evaluate, discuss and analyse artwork using the Big Ideas of Art – **line, colour, shape, texture, pattern, form and space** – enabling them to become thoughtful and articulate young artists. We aim for all pupils to leave St. Margaret's with an appreciation of the arts, a sense of personal achievement and the confidence to use creativity as a tool for learning and self-expression.

Art and Design contributes significantly to the wider aims of our school by nurturing creativity, curiosity, resilience and self-expression. Through our **Create** curriculum, taught in the Autumn Term, pupils engage in a carefully sequenced, high-quality programme of learning that ensures every child has regular opportunities to develop their creativity, technical skill and expressive confidence. Learning is rooted in meaningful project questions that provide a stimulus for enquiry and connect Art to the wider curriculum. This approach ensures that creativity is not taught in isolation but enriches learning across subjects, helping children make meaningful links and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

Teachers follow a clear progression of knowledge and skills, ensuring that pupils revisit and build upon prior learning as they move through the school. Lessons include explicit teaching of artistic techniques, opportunities for experimentation, and time for pupils to evaluate, refine and improve their work. Children are introduced to a diverse range of artists and art forms, enabling them to understand how art communicates ideas, emotions, values and perspectives. Assessment is ongoing and purposeful, allowing teachers to identify strengths, address misconceptions and support pupils in taking the next steps in their artistic development. Through this inclusive and ambitious approach, Art and Design enables pupils to flourish creatively, demonstrate perseverance and individuality, and embody our vision of being **Created to Shine**, empowering every child to become a confident, courageous and successful young artist.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Art and Design Subject Leader is responsible for leading, monitoring and developing the Create curriculum across the school. This includes ensuring progression of knowledge and skills, supporting colleagues with planning and pedagogy, monitoring the quality of teaching and learning, and managing resources effectively. Senior leaders support the subject through strategic oversight and curriculum evaluation.

Class teachers are responsible for delivering high-quality Art and Design lessons, following the agreed curriculum progression and ensuring that all pupils have access to engaging and

meaningful creative experiences. Teachers assess pupils' learning, celebrate achievement and identify next steps to support progress.

The school provides a range of high-quality resources to support the teaching of Art and Design, including drawing, painting, printing, collage, textile and sculpture materials. Resources are reviewed regularly to ensure they support the curriculum and enable pupils to explore a wide variety of techniques and media.

Art and Design is delivered through our **Create** curriculum and is taught primarily during the Autumn Term. Learning is carefully sequenced to ensure progression in artistic knowledge, skills and understanding from Early Years through to Year 6.

Each project is linked to a meaningful enquiry question which provides context and purpose for learning. Lessons are structured to include opportunities for investigating artists and artwork, learning and practising new techniques, developing ideas, creating finished pieces and evaluating outcomes. Pupils are encouraged to reflect upon their learning and understand how artistic skills can be applied across different contexts.

Children's work is recorded in sketchbooks and through the display of completed pieces, allowing them to document their creative journey and celebrate their achievements.

Planning is informed by the National Curriculum for Art and Design and reflects the school's vision of providing a rich, ambitious and inclusive curriculum. Learning is organised around carefully chosen projects that develop pupils' understanding of drawing, painting, printing, textiles, collage and sculpture.

Each project begins with a stimulus, often linked to the wider curriculum, and includes opportunities for pupils to explore, experiment, develop technical skills and create their own responses. Children study a diverse range of artists, designers and craft makers whose work inspires discussion, analysis and practical application.

Teachers use agreed progression documents to ensure that key vocabulary, knowledge and artistic techniques are taught systematically and revisited regularly. Planning incorporates opportunities for reflection, evaluation and improvement so that pupils become increasingly confident and independent artists.

The Art and Design curriculum is underpinned by a carefully sequenced long-term plan and detailed medium-term planning, which ensure progression in both knowledge and skills from Early Years to Year 6. Each year group studies projects that are appropriate to their developmental stage and linked to the overarching enquiry questions that drive our wider curriculum. Through these projects, pupils revisit and build upon previously taught concepts while being introduced to new techniques, materials and artistic influences. This approach ensures full coverage of the National Curriculum whilst providing meaningful opportunities for pupils to develop creativity, make connections across subjects and deepen their understanding of art, craft and design over time.

Long-term and medium-term planning documents set out the specific topics, artists, knowledge and skills taught within each year group and provide clear progression across the school. These plans are reviewed regularly to ensure that learning remains relevant, ambitious and responsive to the needs of our pupils.

Art and Design plays an important role in our wider curriculum and contributes significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Our project questions provide meaningful links between Art and other curriculum areas, enabling pupils to make connections and deepen their understanding. These links may include:

- **History** through the study of artists, artefacts and artistic movements from different time periods.
- **Geography** through exploring landscapes, cultures and artistic traditions from around the world.

- **English** through visual storytelling, illustration, discussion and vocabulary development.
- **PSHE** through expressing identity, emotions, relationships and personal experiences.
- **Religious Education** through exploring symbolism, spirituality, faith and Christian values.
- **Science** through observation, investigation and the study of colour, materials and the natural world.
- **Computing** through opportunities to explore digital art and design where appropriate.

These connections help pupils see creativity as an important tool for understanding and communicating ideas across all areas of learning.

The Art and Design curriculum is built upon the progressive development of substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and practical skills.

Throughout the school, pupils learn about:

- The Big Ideas of Art: **line, colour, shape, texture, pattern, form and space.**
- The work of significant artists, designers and craft makers from a range of cultures and historical periods.
- The purpose and impact of art as a means of communication and expression.
- The processes involved in developing, refining and evaluating artwork.

Pupils progressively develop skills in:

Drawing	Painting	Working as an artist	Collage	Textiles	3D	Printing
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As pupils move through the school, they become increasingly confident in selecting appropriate materials, making artistic decisions independently and articulating their ideas using subject-specific vocabulary.

Our Create projects are enriched through meaningful, memorable experiences that allow children to express themselves creatively, connect with our local community and celebrate their achievements. These opportunities deepen pupils' understanding of how art communicates ideas, emotions and stories, and help them see themselves as artists with a voice.

Enrichment opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- **Year group events**, such as the Year 2 SHINE Show and the Year 5 Light of the World performance, where pupils use art to express identity, message and meaning.
- **Educational visits**, including trips to puppet and performance workshops at Christ's Hospital, enabling pupils to explore storytelling through artistic expression.
- **Artist visitors**, such as the artist who worked with Year 1 to create sculptures from recycled materials, encouraging environmental awareness and creative thinking.
- **Community partnerships**, including our work with the local library where Year 1 pupils painted pebbles for the sensory garden, contributing to a shared community space.
- **Celebration exhibitions**, where finished artwork is displayed and families are invited to view and celebrate pupils' creativity and achievements.

These experiences support our vision of **Created to Shine** by providing authentic opportunities for pupils to showcase their talents, develop confidence and engage with the world beyond the classroom.

At St. Margaret's CE Primary School, we believe that every child is **Created to Shine**, and all pupils are entitled to access a high-quality Art and Design education regardless of background, ability or need.

Teachers use adaptive teaching strategies to ensure that all pupils can participate fully in learning. This may include differentiated resources, additional adult support, visual prompts,

modelling, adapted equipment and flexible outcomes. Pupils with SEND are supported to access learning while maintaining high expectations and opportunities for success.

Children who demonstrate particular strengths or interests in Art and Design are encouraged to deepen their learning through additional challenges, leadership opportunities, independent projects and enrichment activities. Extension focuses on creativity, originality, technical refinement and critical thinking rather than simply producing more work.

The subject aims to foster confidence, resilience and self-expression for every learner, ensuring that all pupils experience success and personal growth through artistic endeavour.

The school recognises its responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for all pupils and staff during Art and Design activities.

Teachers are responsible for ensuring that practical activities are carried out safely and in accordance with school health and safety procedures. Pupils are taught how to use tools, materials and equipment responsibly and are encouraged to take care of both resources and learning environments.

Particular attention is given to the safe use and storage of:

- Scissors and cutting tools.
- Printing equipment.
- Clay and modelling materials.
- Adhesives, paints and other art materials.
- Recycled and found objects used in creative projects.

Appropriate risk assessments are carried out for visits, workshops and activities involving specialist equipment or external providers.

Good hygiene practices, safe workspace organisation and respectful behaviour are promoted at all times to ensure that creativity can flourish within a safe, supportive and well-managed environment.

IMPACT

The impact of Art and Design is evaluated through ongoing monitoring of teaching, learning and pupil outcomes. At St. Margaret's CE Primary School, we strive to ensure that all children are able to flourish creatively and fulfil our vision of being Created to Shine. Monitoring focuses on the quality of curriculum implementation, pupil engagement, progression in knowledge and skills, and the development of confident, reflective young artists.

The Art and Design Subject Leader is responsible for monitoring standards and supporting continuous improvement across the subject. This is achieved through:

- Regular scrutiny of sketchbooks and pupils' completed work to evaluate progression and curriculum coverage.
- Lesson observations and learning walks to monitor the quality of teaching and learning.
- Pupil voice activities and interviews to gather children's views on their learning and experiences within Art and Design.
- Review of planning and assessment information to ensure consistency, progression and high expectations.
- Monitoring displays, exhibitions and celebration events to evaluate the quality of artistic outcomes across the school.

The Subject Leader uses information gathered through monitoring activities to identify strengths, priorities for development and opportunities for further curriculum enhancement.

Art and Design is accessible to all learners through high-quality adaptive teaching and an inclusive curriculum design. Teachers ensure that learning is appropriately scaffolded to enable every child to succeed. Support for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may include:

- Clear modelling and step-by-step instruction.
- Visual prompts, exemplars and practical demonstrations.
- Adapted resources, equipment and materials.
- Additional adult support where appropriate.
- Flexible methods of recording and presenting work.
- Opportunities to revisit and practise skills to secure understanding.

At the same time, pupils who demonstrate particular aptitude or interest in Art and Design are challenged through:

- Open-ended creative tasks that encourage originality and independence.
- Opportunities to experiment with more complex techniques and materials.
- Leadership roles within lessons and projects.
- Independent research into artists and artistic movements.
- Enrichment opportunities, competitions and exhibition work.

Staff training and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) are coordinated by the Subject Leader in collaboration with senior leaders. Professional development may include staff meetings, curriculum updates, sharing of best practice, external training opportunities, artist-led workshops and collaborative planning. This ensures that teachers remain confident in delivering a high-quality Art and Design curriculum and continue to develop their subject knowledge and pedagogical expertise.

Through these monitoring and evaluation processes, leaders ensure that pupils develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to express themselves creatively, appreciate the work of others and achieve increasingly high standards throughout their artistic journey.

Assessment in Art and Design is ongoing and informs both teaching and reporting. Teachers continuously assess pupils' knowledge, skills and creative development through observation, discussion, sketchbook work and completed outcomes. This information is used to celebrate achievement, identify next steps and support pupils in making progress.

Parents are kept informed about their child's attainment in Art and Design through:

- Annual written reports.
- End-of-project exhibitions and showcases.
- Displays of artwork around the school and within classrooms.
- Opportunities to attend performances and celebration events where artistic outcomes are shared.

These opportunities enable parents to gain an understanding of both the creative process and the artistic achievements of their children.

The Subject Leader reports regularly to senior leaders and governors regarding the quality and impact of Art and Design across the school. Reports may include:

- Curriculum implementation and coverage.
- Outcomes from monitoring activities.
- Progress towards subject development priorities.
- Pupil achievement and engagement.
- Participation in enrichment activities and community projects.
- Resource and budget requirements.
- Staff development and CPD opportunities.

Governors receive information that enables them to fulfil their strategic responsibility for curriculum oversight, ensuring that Art and Design remains a high-quality, inclusive and ambitious subject that reflects the school's Christian vision of Created to Shine and its values of Love and Aspire. Through

effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting, leaders ensure that Art and Design continues to be a meaningful, expressive and empowering part of school life for every pupil.