

Art & Design at Sky Primary & Eden Project Nursery

What are the aims?

INTENT



Art and Design and Technology are inspiring and practical subjects that encourages children to learn to think creatively and to solve problems, both as individuals and as members of a team. We encourage children to use their creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts. We intend for children to experience using a wide range of art materials, from clay to charcoal and everything in between. We are committed to providing all children with learning opportunities to shine regardless of age, gender or ability. We aim to, wherever possible, create cross-curricular links to other subjects as this gives the learning purpose and relevance to the children.

Through carefully selected artists we also aim to develop children's historical, geographical, cultural and environmental awareness and to 'teach' them to interpret the stories that artworks tell and have an appreciation of the beauty of the world around them.

In addition, our curriculum ensures that our children are exposed to a range of significant Cornish artists and movements in order to strengthen their sense of belonging, place and cultural identity as well as opening up opportunities for experiencing art first hand through gallery and artist visits.

Our curriculum sets out to ensure balance between new and established artists as well as to those working with in specific fields such as illustration, costume design, textiles, architecture and graphic art so that our children are exposed to the career opportunities available through art as well for the enjoyment of art for its own sake. We want our children to use art, craft and design as a means of self-expression and to build resilience and confidence through evaluating and refining. Additionally, we want our children to enjoy looking at artworks and be able to clearly communicate their own ideas and opinions.

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What does it look like?

Implementation

Our spiral curriculum is designed so that children revisit media, develop their skills in different contexts and build on previous knowledge.

We deliver our curriculum to ensure art is prioritised and teachers can focus on providing high-quality and rich creative experiences for our children. It also allows the time to develop each aspect of the creative process outlined below:

- Exploring the artwork and ideas of established of artists and designers
- Rehearsing with new media, skills and techniques
- Exploring and generating ideas
- Creating and refining work
- Evaluating their own and the others' work
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There is a focus artist complemented by 3 or 4 related artists. Children are first taught about the focus artist and their historical, cultural, political and social context before exploring several of the artist's works. The children then explore the work of related artists and discuss similarities and differences. Our children are taught the skills and techniques used by the artists and have opportunities to explore these in focused sessions. Drawing on different stimuli, the children explore their own ideas and use sketchbooks to record, experiment and practice, before creating and refining their own work.

Each unit also has an identified media and subject focus to ensure that our children's learning journey is broad, balanced and meaningful.

Links are also made between art and other curriculum areas such as using art as either stimuli or response in RE, PSHE, English, Geometry (from the Harmony Approach) music or dance or to gather historical or geographical information.

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What are the outcomes?

IMPACT

Children are able to retain prior-learning and explicitly make connections between what they have previously learned and what they are currently learning. Children will be confident to design, create and evaluate and to talk about their learning and progress. The impact and measure of this is to ensure that children at Sky are equipped with skills and knowledge that will enable them to move on to the next stage of their education and beyond into life as an adult in the wider world.