

Art at Old Park

Art is led by our Curriculum Lead and our Art support teachers.

Why Do We Teach Art at Old Park?

At Old Park Primary school we value Art and Design as an integral part of children's learning and development to a broad and balanced curriculum. We believe that an enriched learning scheme for children is vital in order for children to embody the highest forms of creativity. Our Art curriculum is broad, inspiring, challenging, creative and engaging, allowing children to holistically develop. Children are given opportunities to express themselves, experiment and invent their own unique works of Art, further enabling and provoking critical thinking. Our Art curriculum in school helps children reflect on our history, culture, and the wealth of our nation as well as to make valuable contributions. Our school provides children with visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a special way of understanding and responding to the world. It enables children of all abilities to communicate what they see, feel and think through the use of colour, texture, form, pattern and different materials and processes.

Aims:

The national curriculum for Art and Design aims to ensure that all pupils: produce creative work, explore their ideas and record their experiences and become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques, evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design. We aim to provide children with knowledge about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

How Do We Teach Art at Old Park?

Our teaching and implementation of Art and Design at Old Park Primary School is based on the national curriculum and progressive skills throughout the school, ensuring a well-structured approach to this creative subject.

The children are taught Art and Design on a termly basis as part of their termly topic. The areas covered include painting, sculpture, printing and digital art with clear links to artist's influences to refer to. Our Art journeys enable children to understand the Art works of local, national and international artists, further enabling them to appreciate the diverse approaches to Art.

Throughout the learning journey children reflect, embed, explore and discuss strategies, mediums and styles of Art, which later aid them in creating their own Art piece. Children are encouraged and supported to design and create their own unique pieces of Art as part of the final stages to their learning journey in this subject. At Old Park we enjoy allowing children to explore and choose the mediums they wish to use for their final pieces of Art, as this encourages them to take pride and responsibility for their work, as well as allowing them freedom to personalise their work.

While Art is a practical subject, our curriculum ensures children have opportunities for reflection, where children acquire the ability to make informed, critical responses of their own work and that of others and are encouraged to develop both their ability to respond critically to works of Art, as well as develop their own artistic ability. As a school we have embedded teacher sketchbooks to help children understand the teaching and ensure we set high expectations for all pieces of work. This also aids teachers in understanding and planning for any areas that children may require extra support on.

The children's learning is enriched and enhanced with a whole school Art Days week at the start of the academic year, where children have the opportunity for collaborative working and exploring the different styles and techniques of a range of artists. We celebrate and take pride in sharing the work of our children throughout our school displays.

At Old Park Primary School we have the shared vision of ensuring children never miss out on any opportunity to learn and develop their understanding and learning of Art. We have a Google classroom where children can take part in an Arts competition, which are scheduled by the Art co-ordinator and Music co-ordinator on a half-term basis. We encourage children to continue their creativity outside of school, get parents involved in their journey and aid them in their understanding of cross-curricular links. This further allows children to build stronger relationships with special people in their lives outside of school.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Pupils explore and use a variety of media and materials through a combination of child initiated and adult directed activities. They have opportunities to learn to:

- Explore the textures, movement, feel and look of different media and materials
- Respond to a range of media and materials, develop their understanding of them in order to manipulate and create different effects.
- Use different media and materials to express their own ideas
- Explore colour and use for a particular purpose
- Develop skills to use simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately
- Select appropriate media and techniques and adapt their work where necessary

Key Stage 1

Pupils are taught to:

- to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products
- to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination
- to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space
- about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

Key Stage 2

Pupils are taught:

- to develop their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design.
- to create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas
- to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay] about great artists, architects and designers in history.

Does Our Art Curriculum Influence Our Children?

Summative assessments take place throughout the year and teachers record the progress and attainment against the National curriculum expectations of attainment. At Old Park Primary School we use success criteria skills to stage our learning journey, which allows children to understand the learning process better. Children are then given many opportunities to verbally discuss and reflect on their work with peers and the class teacher on a regular basis throughout the journey. We encourage this further by giving children to help each other assess their learning and work through self and peer assessment.

Teachers use this information to inform future lessons to provide children with opportunities to revisit certain skills, ensuring children are supported and challenged appropriately. The books are monitored by the Curriculum lead and the DHT throughout the years to inform any trends and gaps in the learning and attainment.

Further information is gathered through teacher feedback and surveys as well as the student and the Art ambassadors of the school. These enable the school to highlight the strengths and achievements and any improvements, knowledge and skills that need to be embedded or reviewed.

Final end of year assessments are made based on the progressive skills that have been developed in line with the national curriculum, thus identifying the level in which the child is working. Children in the EYFS are assessed through observations, which take place throughout the academic year and continuous feedback is provided about the learning of children through the Tapestry app, allowing parents to see their child(rens) achievements as well as verbal communication. Age related expectation levels are reported to parents at the end of all academic years.