



## Art and Design Policy

Date: January 2026

Update due: January 2028

Subject Leader: Elizabeth Hammond

### Intent

At Abingdon Primary School, we believe that Art should be fully inclusive to every child. Art and Design stimulates imagination and creativity; involving children in a range of visual, tactile and sensory experiences, which enable them to communicate what they see, think and feel through colour, texture, form and pattern.

Our Art curriculum provides children with opportunities to develop their skills using a range of media and materials. Children learn the skills of drawing, painting, printing, textiles, 3D and sculpture and collage and mixed media work.

They are given the opportunity to explore and evaluate different creative ideas-of others and their own. The skills and knowledge they acquire are applied to their cross-curricular topics, allowing children to use their art skills to reflect on and explore topics in greater depth.

### Our aims are to:

- fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for art and design,
- provide a broad and balanced curriculum,
- ensure the progressive development of knowledge and skills,
- enable children to observe and record from first-hand experience and from imagination,
- develop the children's competence in controlling materials and tools,
- acquire knowledge and become proficient in various art and design techniques and processes,
- begin to develop an awareness of colour, pattern and texture, line and tone, shape, form and space,
- begin to develop an appreciation of the visual arts and a knowledge of significant artists, craftspeople and designers,
- increase critical awareness of the roles and purposes of art and design in different times and cultures and analyse works using the language of art and design.
- enable all children to have access to a varied range of high-quality art experiences
- inspire confidence, value and pleasure in art

### Implementation:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in art and design, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Art and Design is taught in a block each term and there is a new topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum, which provides a broad framework and outlines the

knowledge and skills taught in each Key Stage. Most of the planning is linked to our termly topics and helps to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for the children with a particular focus on the Art skills. Cross curricular links are, where relevant, made with Design & Technology, Science, History and Geography. Our curriculum is carefully planned to engage and excite all our learners. Our long-term and medium-term plans map out the themes covered each term for each key stage. The progression of vocabulary and skills document ensures the curriculum is covered and that the skills taught can be built upon from year group to year group or from one key stage phase to the next, and can be developed as the children progress through school. The use of stem sentences in Art encourage and develop oracy and help the children to think like an artist. As part of this development children will also be given the opportunity to express themselves creatively.

At Abingdon Primary School the children will study a range of artists and crafts people, to incorporate those from different ethnic backgrounds and women and men. We feel this is important to expose our children to a variety of cultural experiences.

From year 1 children are encouraged to use sketchbooks which serve as a cumulative record of their work. Samples of children's work are also collected. Monitoring takes place regularly through sampling children's work, teacher planning and lesson observations.

We recognise the fact that we have children of differing ability and needs in all our classes, and so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies which are differentiated by task, materials, expected outcome and/or support from peers or adults.

### **Impact:**

Our art and design curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. We focus on progression of skills and vocabulary progression also forms part of the units of work. We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Assessing children's understanding of topic linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Summative assessment of pupil discussions about their learning.
- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Learning walks to monitor the standard of Art lessons for the children.
- Pupil voice-Interviewing the pupils about their learning
- Book looks –a monitoring of sketchbooks
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum.