

St James' Lanehead Church of England Primary School



Art Policy

Date of Policy:	January 2026
Person Responsible:	Miss J Doe
Review Date:	January 2029

Our Mission

Our church school seeks to inspire each individual to flourish, grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

St James' Lanehead Primary School

Art Policy

Vision and Aims

At St James' Lanehead, we aim to teach our children to grow into positive, responsible role models who can work and co-operate with others whilst developing the knowledge, skills and understanding within subjects as well as a positive attitude to use throughout their lives. The intent of our Art curriculum is to enable pupils to understand, appreciate and contribute to a dimension of life that taps into and expresses human innovation, imagination and thought. We interpret the term 'art' to include the practices of art, craft and design. Artists are to be interpreted as artists, crafts people and designers throughout the curriculum.

We aim to provide a high-quality art education that encourages pupils to build on their ability to 'appreciate and interpret what they observe, communicate what they think and feel, and make what they imagine and invent'. Our Art curriculum is designed to unlock creativity by providing a clear framework of progression and well-sequenced lessons that inspire pupils' to explore, experiment and express themselves using a variety of materials and techniques. Unit outcomes are open-ended, allowing pupils' to make independent decisions, take creative risks and develop their unique artistic voices.

Our school ensures that all pupils will:

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- 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
- Know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms
- Have opportunities to learn about art from different times and cultures
- Be encouraged to value originality, take creative risks and reflect critically on their own work and that of others

We will ensure these aims are fulfilled by following these five strands:

- **Generating ideas** – exploring, visualising and developing original ideas in response to a range of stimuli.
- **Using sketchbooks** – recording, experimenting, refining and reflecting throughout the creative process. Sketchbooks are used from year 1 through to year 6. These will travel through school with the pupils.
- **Making skills** – becoming proficient in a range of artistic techniques and media, including drawing, painting, sculpture and craft.
- **Knowledge of artists** – learning about significant artists, craft makers and designers from a diverse range of cultures, periods and traditions.
- **Evaluating and analysing** – using artistic vocabulary to reflect on and discuss their own work and that of others critically and thoughtfully.

To ensure progression in making skills across a range of media, the curriculum is organised into the following key areas:

- **Drawing** – developing control and expression through line, shape, tone and texture using a variety of tools and materials.
- **Painting and mixed media** – exploring colour, layering and surface to create expressive, imaginative outcomes using a range of techniques.
- **Sculpture and 3D** – constructing, modelling and shaping materials to realise ideas in three dimensions.
- **Craft and design** – learning how art connects to the wider creative industries through purposeful making and design projects.

Curriculum objectives

EYFS – Expressive Arts and Design

Pupils will be:

- Encouraged to explore and play with a wide range of media, materials, tools and techniques.
- Supported to develop the skills of observation, reasoning and problem-solving.
- Provided with activities that develop their curiosity, exploration and discussion.
- Inspired to experiment with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Encouraged to share their creations, explaining the process that they have taken.

Key stage 1

Pupils will be taught:

- 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 will be 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.

Pupils should be taught:

- 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

Inclusion and Diversity

The curriculum aims to challenge stereotypes, build respect for different perspectives and celebrate the richness of human creativity across time and place. The curriculum aims to achieve this by:

- Including artists from a wide range of backgrounds, cultures and time periods
- Exploring different forms of art beyond the Western canon, including textiles, craft, sculpture, and architecture from around the world.
- Ensuring that the voices, stories and techniques of both contemporary and historical artists are represented.
- Encouraging pupils to respond personally and respectfully to art from cultures that may be different from their own.

Activities will be modified to meet the needs of all learners through adaptive teaching. The following strategies will be used to support and challenge every pupil:

- **Scaffolding** – activities are designed with flexibility in mind, allowing for additional support or challenge where needed.
- **Multi-sensory approaches** – lessons incorporate different elements to engage all learners.
- **Clear instructions and structured tasks** – ensuring clarity and reducing cognitive load for pupils who benefit from additional support.
- **Opportunities for collaborative and independent learning** – allowing pupils to work at their own pace while building confidence and independence.

Health and Safety

The school is responsible for teaching art, craft and design in a healthy and safe environment with reference to appropriate risk assessments for activities likely to incur possible risk. The teaching staff and art leader are responsible for the supervision of activities such as cutting, printing, batik work and mixing of media. All art equipment is subject to maintenance and safety checks and any faulty equipment is to be reported to the Head teacher.

At all times, children will be taught how to care for and handle equipment and media safely and with respect. When working with tools, equipment and materials, in practical and in different environments, including those that are unfamiliar, pupils will be taught:

- About hazards, risks and risk control;
- To recognize hazards, assess consequent risks and take steps to control the risks to themselves and others;
- To use information to assess the immediate and cumulative risks;
- To manage their environment to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others;
- To explain the steps they take to control risks

