

Town Lane Infant School Art Policy

‘Throughout school pupils develop their creativity and imagination by exploring the visual, tactile and sensory quality of materials and processes. They learn about the role of art, craft and design in the environment. They begin to understand colour, shape, space, pattern and texture and use them to represent their ideas and feelings.’

At Town Lane Infant School, the children will develop their creative and imaginative talents through learning a variety of skills and techniques, helping them to become confident, resilient artists. During their journey at school, children will be exposed to the work of great artists allowing them to appreciate, critically reflect upon and integrate techniques in their own work. The overarching aim is for all children to develop a love of art that will stay with them for life.

Intent

Our aim is to provide opportunities for all children to

- use a wide range of skills and techniques to express and convey their ideas and feelings
- work individually, with others and as a whole class
- experience a balanced, well structured programme of activities that builds on previous experiences and achievements
- develop and use a variety of vocabulary to describe work in Art and Design
- use materials, tools and techniques through exploration and experimentation and to be taught to use them safely in accordance with Health and Safety requirements
- evaluate their own work and suggest ways of how to improve it and to express opinions about the work of others
- recognise different kinds of Art and Design and to explore the work of other artists, craftspeople and designers
- develop an understanding of the work of other artists, craftspeople and designers of the past and present and from their own and other cultures
- make choices from a range of materials and tools for their work, based on knowledge, understanding and experience
- experience success, to develop a sense of self worth and achievement and to enjoy their experiences of Art and Design.

Implementation

At Town Lane Infant School Art and Design is carefully planned and integrated with other areas of the curriculum where applicable. However, we appreciate the importance of Art and Design in its own right.

The requirements of the programmes for Key Stage 1 are such that teachers plan opportunities for

children to develop their creativity and imagination through:

- exploring and developing ideas
- investigating and making art, craft and design
- evaluating and developing work
- developing their knowledge and understanding

Impact

Our Art curriculum ensures that children leave Town Lane:

- Remembering key knowledge of artists, materials, media and skills.
- Able to use a variety of vocabulary with which to discuss their art knowledge and understanding.
- Knowing how their actions support the continued award of the Artsmark Award.

How does the Art curriculum support the whole school curriculum aims?

- -To promote a love of reading and improve vocabulary acquisition.
- •-To promote cultural capital by teaching students a broad range of artistic knowledge. Learning also extends beyond the classroom with trips (Walker Art Gallery), visiting artists and afterschool Art enrichment clubs.
- -To develop students into global citizens by supporting them to develop outstanding character and to engage with different viewpoints and ideas.

• What British values underpin the curriculum content?

- In Art and Design, we ensure that we are aware of, and consider the views and values of others, particularly when working collaboratively. We hold discussions when making decisions about our work, and collaborative projects.
- We consider individual liberty. The children are allowed to take creative risks and develop their own sense of creativity, making individual choices regarding their artwork designs, use of tools and media.
- We work to establish mutual respect and tolerance of others, and the children are given many opportunities to critique each other's work in a positive and constructive manner whilst showing respect for the opinions and beliefs of their peers which may differ from their own.
- • We create tolerance and appreciation of other cultures and societies.

Breadth of Study

During Key Stage 1 pupils should be taught knowledge, skills and understanding through:

- exploring a range of starting points for practical work

- working on their own and collaborating with others on projects in 2 and 3 dimensions and on different scales
- using a range of materials and processes
- investigating different kinds of art, craft and design.

Creative Development is one of the six areas of learning in the Foundation Stage. In the Early Years opportunities are planned for the children to explore and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities – art, design and technology, music, movement, dance and imaginative play.

There are regular opportunities for the children to plan their own activities during child-initiated sessions as well as engage in activities planned by adults where specific new skills and techniques are taught.

It is important to plan for exploration, experimentation, and investigation as well as teaching in the handling of tools and materials. Equally important is using and teaching the appropriate vocabulary of Art for each unit of work.

Use of ICT

Children will have the opportunity to use ICT through Art & Design activities. A number of units support the art curriculum and developing vocabulary (e.g. Digital Painting Year 1). They will use drawing and designing software to consolidate manipulative skills. Children will also have the opportunity to use the internet to research and find information on various artists being studied. They will also record some of their work using an Ipad.

Resources

All classrooms have an Art and Craft area with a supply of basic art equipment e.g. pencils, crayons, ready mixed paints, brushes, palettes, water pots, felt pens etc. More specific supplies are kept in the art area in 2B. Drawing paper and coloured / black paper are stored outside the Year 1 classrooms. Tissues paper and backing paper are stored in the art storage trolley next to the Year 2 classrooms.

Recording Work

Children record their observational work, artists they have studied, examples of techniques and media used in a variety of different ways e.g. for display, presented in sketchbooks or in class books. A great deal of work carried out is on a large scale, so examples of work are photographed and kept in the Art & Design monitoring folder.

We have introduced sketchbooks and our intent is for these to be used by the child throughout their time at Town Lane Infant School as a tool and a record for demonstrating their development of key artistic skills.

The Role of the Art and Design Co-ordinator

- To work with the Head Teacher to monitor and evaluate the teaching of Art and Design within the school.
- To discuss curriculum plans and schemes of work with colleagues, clarifying areas of uncertainty and offer support if needed.
- To review and update the Policy and Scheme of Work.
- To be aware of the Foundation Stage/National Curriculum requirements etc.
- To organise and maintain resources.
- To represent the school at courses and CPD on matters relating to Art and Design and report back as necessary.
- To keep staff up to date with any changes that may affect their teaching of Art and Design within school and their year group.

- To report to the governors as and when required.
- To develop and keep under review risk assessments.

Assessments and Evaluations

Assessment is the responsibility of the class teacher and is informal and ongoing throughout the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. Assessment will come from teacher observations and evidence from work generated which will enable the completion of art assessments on Insight which will be filled in at the end of a unit of work. An Art Portfolio containing samples of work will be kept and available for staff to use for demonstration purposes to children or parents and will be updated as necessary.

Inclusion

We believe that it is important for all children at Town Lane Infant School regardless of gender, race or religious background to experience a range of Art and Design activities. We will modify activities appropriately for able pupils and children with special educational needs so that they can be included in all areas of the Art and Design curriculum. We aim to promote high self-esteem and avoid stereotyping.

Health and Safety

All staff are required to make risk assessments throughout their lessons and involve the children as much as possible in taking responsibility for dangerous behaviour, areas and equipment. The formal procedure for reporting accidents and hazards regarding any area of the Art curriculum is via the Art Co-ordinator. Below are some general rules:

- Children should wear an apron and wash their hands after all art activities.
- All spillages should be cleared immediately.
- Ensure the art area always has a dry floor.
- Supervise children with equipment they do not use regularly or confidently.
- Check if products and art materials have an expiry date and are suitable for the children who you intend to use them with.

In the event of an accident all children should cease working and sit away from the art area. If necessary, send for the First Aider. All accidents should be recorded in the accident book.

Policy updated by K Holmes April 2025

Links to UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child)

Article 28 - Every child has a right to an education. Primary education must be free. Secondary education must be available for every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity. Richer countries must help poorer countries to achieve this.

Article 29 - Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 31 - Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.