

## The Art and Design Curriculum at Yeadon Westfield Infant School

### Intent

At Yeadon Westfield Infant School we believe that **all** pupils are entitled to a full, stimulating, and well-structured art and design curriculum based on the National Curriculum 2014 and the EYFS Statutory Framework 2021. We believe the teaching of art and design should develop a child's ability to foster imagination and creativity, develop practical and perceptual skills whilst promoting aesthetic development. Most importantly, our focus is to provide the children with a platform to express their individual creativity. We aim to build their resilience to help them develop an appreciation and enjoyment of art and design and to inspire them for the future.

As an infant and nursery school, we are very much centred on the first steps in this journey. Through our teaching of art and design we aim to:

- provide a progressive and challenging art curriculum which is sequenced to ensure that new and personalised knowledge is taught in each session
- provide opportunities for art objectives to be taught in each session
- identify gaps in skills development and knowledge and swiftly overcome these with precise teaching
- provide the children with a rich curriculum of carefully crafted lessons that ensures time for practical practice and consolidation
- provide opportunities for children to: take part in creative art days, collaborate with and visit exhibitions and watch performances. These experiences will widen their knowledge, exposure to and understanding of the arts

We believe that following a rigorous and child centred curriculum from the beginning of nursery allows us to ensure **all** pupils are given the opportunities they need to make progress across the areas for learning and the acquire the skills and knowledge in the National Curriculum, whether they are disadvantaged, have special educational needs, or have delays or gaps in learning.

### Implementation

We have chosen to develop a curriculum that focuses on sequential learning building on the foundations already laid in the previous learning. Each stage of the children's learning journey is clear, misconceptions can be addressed, and gaps addressed: knowledge is carefully and systematically built up and mastery opportunities can be provided at every stage.

Nursery children have access to areas of provision to develop their learning and this is built on in reception. There is huge emphasis on language acquisition throughout.

Our skills progressions afford the children with opportunities to create art using a range of media. They are explicitly taught to draw, paint, sculpt, design and evaluate their ideas, challenging these through individual and collaborative work.

Art skills and knowledge are taught through cross-curricular opportunities. By linking art, wherever possible, to our wider curriculum, children are encouraged and comfortable to share and express their ideas. They do so with confidence to experiment, creating resilience in the pursuit of an end goal. Promoting art in this way brings topics to life and, as a result, our children's love for art transcends beyond designated art lessons. Co-ordinated, whole school projects (i.e. our annual participation in the Aireborough Learning Partnership Arts Exhibition) ensure that art is given high status within our curriculum. We plan for opportunities for learning to take place outside of the classroom so the children can appreciate that art is all around them and comes in many forms.

There is active participation in acquiring a range of art and design skills, involving individual, group and class work. Opportunities are also identified across the curriculum so that the children can develop and apply their skills in all aspects of learning and not simply in subject isolation.

#### Assessment

- all lessons will provide opportunities for formative assessment.
- children in Early Years will be assessed against the statements in Development Matters and the EYFS Statutory Framework.
- end of year reports contain information about how the children have progressed through the year including their strengths and areas for development

Monitoring is carried out to ensure staff and children are confident with teaching and learning art and design. Staff keep up to date with developments in art and design with work being done in the ALPT and advice from the Department of Education.

#### **Impact**

By the end of KS1, children should:

- 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.

Learning is expected to be of high quality with children putting in their best effort. Children should enjoy art and design lessons and be keen to challenge themselves regardless of stage of development. They should leave our school ready for the next stage of their learning in KS2.