



Art at St. Michael's

At St. Michael's, we aim to encourage pupils' creativity, with engaging art lessons and activities, inspiring and challenging them. We want pupils to be confident to experiment and express themselves through art. We also want them to apply critical thinking skills and develop a good understanding of artists and their work. It is important that pupils are aware of how art has shaped our history and culture. The Church of England's vision (July 2016), "life in all its fullness" links well with the range of artists and their styles taught within our Art curriculum.

Curriculum Implementation

The art curriculum is implemented by focusing on the progression of a range of skills: developing ideas, drawing, painting, 3D, printmaking, texture, pattern, colour, line and tone, art through technology and responding to art. These are taught and built on each year. Art is taught weekly for half a term, meaning 3 topics are covered each year in KS1 and KS2. In the Early Years, art is taught within different topics.

The art curriculum aims to ensure pupils:

- 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

In addition to class teaching of art, we have occasional art days, which the children thoroughly enjoy. Children produce a very high standard of art work. We also encourage participation in events such as local photography competitions.

EYFS

Art in the Foundation Stage is linked to the following areas of learning:

Physical Development

- Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently.
- Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
- Develop overall body-strength, balance, coordination and agility.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
- Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them.
- Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.

KS1

In KS1, pupils use a range of art materials to draw, paint and create sculptures, where they are encouraged to develop and share their ideas and imagination. Pupils learn how to develop a wide range of techniques by using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. They also learn about different artists' work, such as Monet and Van Gogh, looking at similarities and differences, whilst also comparing to their own work.

KS2

In KS2, pupils continue to develop their art skills and techniques, such as controlling and use of materials. Pupils are encouraged to be creative and to experiment. In KS2, children increase their awareness of different kinds of art and artists. Pupils keep sketchbooks where they can record their observations and plan their ideas. Children continue to improve mastery of techniques, using a range of materials (including pencil, charcoal, paint and clay) to do so. Pupils learn further about famous artists and their techniques.

Curriculum Impact

The art curriculum at St. Michael's aims to create a love of the subject for all children. We would like for them to leave Year 6 with an appreciation of art and artists, knowing that art can provide a means of expression (both self-expression and to communicate), which is particularly helpful for children with social and emotional difficulties. There are no mistakes in art and it is hoped that this will encourage children to continue applying the skills they have learnt throughout their lives. Our art curriculum encourages observation and problem-solving, persistence and experimentation, confidence and creativity - all skills relevant and useful to today's secondary education and beyond.