

Art Intent Statement



As a welcoming and inclusive family school we will embrace all members of our community. St. Stephen's will strive to foster an enriched love of learning embodied in the Word of Christ by celebrating and nurturing a child's full potential, for we believe that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Mission Statement: St. Stephen's is rooted in Christian faith and committed to excellence: encouraging staff to excel, pupils to flourish, and all to feel secure, valued and loved.

Intent:

Our Art Curriculum has been designed to ensure each and every child has the opportunity to be creative and learn from great artists. At St. Stephen's we believe that a high-quality art education should engage, inspire and challenge pupils; equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, discover and create their own works of art.

It is bespoke to the needs of the pupils at St. Stephen's, it allows children to focus on the art skills (drawing and sketching, colour, texture, form/3D, printing, pattern) individually in each unit; building on these skills each time they are revisited. As a school, we believe that art is a vital and integral part of children's education. It provides them with opportunities to develop a range of ways in which they can share and express their individual creativity, whilst learning about and making links with a wide spectrum of different types of art in our world.

Art contributes to children's personal development in creativity, independence, judgement and self-reflection. Furthermore, it enables pupils to develop a natural sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them and therefore links strongly to our school values. The focus of our Art curriculum is in developing children's art skills, with the overall aim of developing a rigorous understanding, critical awareness and inspiration of art and design.

Our aim is to develop children's critical abilities and understanding of their own and others' cultural heritages through studying a diverse range of male and female artists throughout history. Children will develop their understanding of the visual language of art with effective teaching and carefully thought out sequences of lessons and experiences.

Implement:

We teach a skills-based art curriculum, which allows children to express their creative imagination as well as providing them with opportunities to practise and develop mastery in the key processes of art: drawing, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture. This is supported through the studying of key artists and the development of a knowledge of their work.

Lessons are taught in blocks on a half termly basis and involve studying existing pieces of art, sketching aspects of these, with a particular focus on the necessary skills, before completing a final piece. The children are given verbal constructive feedback and next steps throughout the lessons, with further opportunities to practice, to improve their work and ensure that the skills are being developed. The evidence of their work is collected within the art sketch book. Photographs of larger, group or 3D pieces are also kept within this book. Every child in school has their own sketchbook and has full ownership of it. A sketchbook isn't presented on marked like an ordinary book, we want to encourage each child to become an artist - to be ambitious, reflective, and resilient, all whilst being creative and using their imagination.

"My sketchbook is a witness of what I am experiencing, scribbling things whenever they happen"
Vincent Van Gough.

"I filled my sketchbook with drawings, very much as any educated girl of my generation might have kept a diary" Gabriele Munter.

Impact:

Our children's knowledge of art history, great artists and visual elements of art is recorded in their sketchbooks, whilst the development of their physical skills will be evaluated against Key Performance Indicators in drawing/sketching, colour, texture, form/3D, printing and pattern. Through our engaging curriculum, we hope our children will learn more, remember more, enjoy more and develop more, taking these skills with them into their next stage of life.

In Christ: Be healthy, Be happy, Be helpful, Believe.