ART & DESIGN

Spotlight on Assessment



WHY ART AND DESIGN?

The study of art enables pupils to understand, appreciate and contribute to a dimension of life that taps into and expresses human innovation, imagination and thought. A high-quality art education can build pupils' ability to 'appreciate and interpret what they observe, communicate what they think and feel, or make what they imagine and invent'. At its best, the subject is both intellectually challenging and creatively demanding.

Research review series: Art & Design (February 2023)

We aim for our pupils to learn how:

- aesthetic judgements are formed and claimed
- art is studied
- to participate in the discourse of artists, scholars and critics





"Teaching art to children is like inviting them to engage with endless creativity and joy.

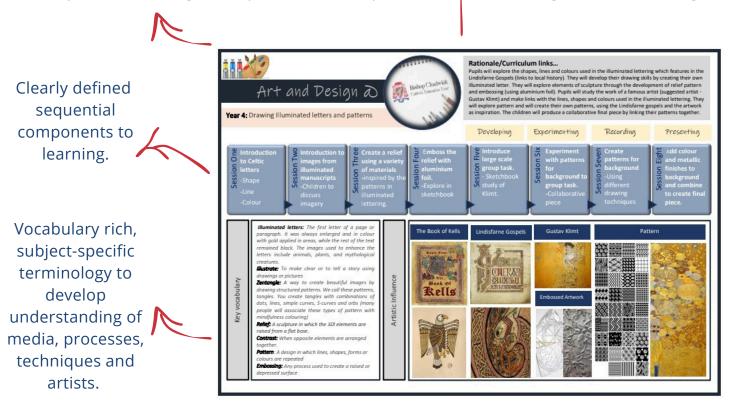
It's where imagination runs wild and every colour tells a story."

CURRICULUM DESIGN

The art and design curriculum is designed to assess what children know and remember over time, as well as assessing the development of skills and pupils' understanding of how we communicate through art.

Establish prior learning to ensure that new learning links with and builds upon current knowledge of pupils. Drawing units are built upon each year, with painting and sculpture units being developed across each phase.

Concise rationale for learning that has been prioritised and how does this learning prepare pupils for the next stages of their learning in Art

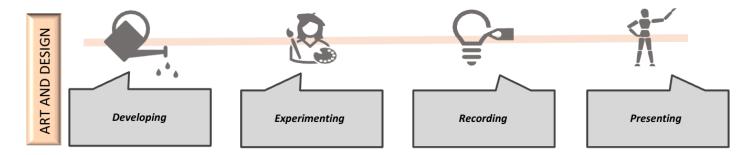


Opportunities to assess learning and offer feedback, as learners move towards clearly defined end points, have been considered as part of the curriculum design for each unit. Using a range of ongoing assessment approaches will most likely ensure that assessment captures the range of knowledge that pupils need. It will also address the various purposes of assessment in art & design.



A THRESHOLD CURRICULUM

Threshold Concepts are carefully interleaved within the curriculum from EYFS to KS5 so that they are revisited and reinforced with different content and context attached to the concept over time.



The threshold concepts relate to all domains of knowledge in art, they incorporate the skills children develop over time, both productive (pupils becoming proficient in the aspects of art or producing art) and receptive (pupils learning about aspects of art) across a range of units in drawing, painting, sculpture and other areas of making.

Developing ideas and exploration are key to children understanding art and design and allow them to gain a critical understanding of art work and their own ideas. Through investigative work and experimentation, children will develop their ideas and techniques, building upon skills throughout the curriculum units and learning from the process, which is evidenced in children's work.



Experimenting provides children opportunity to develop their ideas further, through using a broad range of different media and materials and techniques. Analysing what has worked well through annotation and communicating preferences. Work in sketchbooks provide examples of where children have carried out such work to explore such ranges.



Recording will be evidenced in a variety of ways through art & design. Through their responses and use of a range of different materials, pupils' developing techniques as an artist should be evidenced and demonstrate progression throughout the curriculum. All forms of recording provide opportunity for dialogue and feedback to be exchanged and assessment of pupil



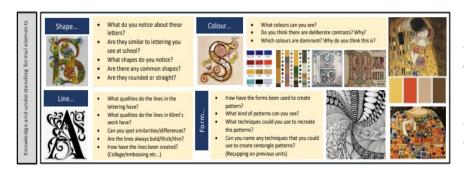
Within art & design, pupils will 'present' their personal response, meaning they've developed their own, original artwork by taking inspiration from artists. Children's sketchbooks will show clear links between ideas and visual elements, which allows for the assessment of the pupils' understanding of what they have done and why.

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Accurately identifying pupil progress

Pupils make progress in art & design by developing:

- technical knowledge necessary for when they make and create art. This allows pupils to make choices based on what they know about the limits and possibilities of materials and media (described as practical knowledge)
- knowledge about the cultural and contextual content about artists and artwork. Through art
 history, an understanding of: meaning and interpretations; materials and processes; journeys
 and connections through time (described as theoretical knowledge)
- knowledge about how art is studied, discussed and judged, how aesthetic judgements are formed and claimed and how to participate in the discourses of artists, scholars and critics (described as disciplinary knowledge)



Each lesson within a sequence of art, provides a sequential scaffold covering the essential skills and knowledge, whilst not limiting individual creativity and expertise. Defining the knowledge and understanding needed is provided to allow for pupils to respond in a way which may be unexpected, unpredictable, or unanticipated.

Assessment 'embedded' within the design Opportunities to know where pupils are with their learning and to identify and address any gaps.

Each lesson allows for new knowledge to be placed in the context of previous learning, as well as providing an opportunity to highlight any learning still to come. Allowing time to explain this to pupils will enable them to see the purpose of their learning in the 'bigger picture' of the art being studied.



The art & design curriculum uses effective assessment through various forms of information and provides feedback to pupils, in the moment, in order to evaluate and assess pupil progress.

Assessment within art & design is heavily based around dialogue and feedback between teachers and pupils, which is particularly beneficial when pupils learn practical knowledge. Within each lesson, live marking and feedback focuses on improvement in the immediate task. Through this approach, ways in which pupils can modify and refine the way they are applying component knowledge can be improved. This formative assessment, within lessons, is achieved through effective dialogue between teachers and pupils in a timely, frequent and bite-size manner. Assessment in this way, ensures that knowledge of specific components is checked and allows teachers to identify and address specific misconceptions or knowledge gaps in a purposeful way.

The design of the curriculum and sequential components in art & design, build up to a final piece or outcome, which can be assessed in a summative way to identify how well the pupils have remembered, and put into practice, the knowledge that is being applied in the piece. These tasks provide rich opportunities for assessment of pupils' disciplinary knowledge and their theoretical knowledge and are planned with sufficiently long intervals to allow time for enough curriculum content to be taught and learned, before being assessed.