



West Byfleet Infant School
We Belong, Inspire, Succeed

Art and Design Policy



Context of policy to our school vision and values

Our school vision is 'We Belong, Inspire, Succeed'. This reminds us daily that children need to feel safe and secure within the school community, have opportunities to inspire their interests and an enthusiasm for learning, as well as achieving success at all levels.

At West Byfleet, we believe that art is a subject that is influential towards children because it can affect them in ways that many other subjects cannot. It aims to develop a pupil's creativity, thought processes, and their way of expression. It helps to create a sense of belonging as children learn about cultures and their community.

Art enables children to be inspired and use their imagination and creativity. As it is subjective, there is no right or wrong. Art also helps to children succeed as they develop creative problem-solving skills. We live in a world that is rich in cultural histories – arts and crafts are easy for us to access via the Internet, films, books, galleries and museums. We have growing contemporary art and design industries and, increasingly, organisations of all sorts recognise the potential of creative thinkers to grow businesses. Learning skills and techniques in art and design give children an additional language, a visual one, that provides another means by which to express ideas and process their thoughts.

Member of staff responsible	Katherine Terry
Date Policy Produced	Spring 2024
Policy agreed/last reviewed	Autumn 2025
Next review date	Autumn 2026
Other Related Policies	
Is it a Statutory Policy?	No
Does it need Governor approval?	No

Our Curriculum:

Our curriculum follows the National expectations and we use the Cornerstones projects to enhance and support our planning, sequencing and resourcing. Teachers use the WBIS progression of knowledge and skills to ensure that the teaching of art and design is progressive across year groups and builds upon prior learning. Teachers use a reflective plan-do-review cycle of improvement.

As Reception is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage, we relate the art learning to the objectives set out from Development Matters under Expressive Arts and Design. The Art Subject Leader, monitors planning & teaching through the year, to ensure continuity, progression and high standards throughout the school.

Aims:

1. To enable children to develop their artistic creativity and imagination with confidence and at their own level, in an enjoyable and worthwhile way.
2. To enable children to develop their creative and technical skills in making their own art through observation and recording using a range of skills.
3. To enable children to think critically about art and design, including their own.
4. To enable children to be knowledgeable about famous artists.
5. To enable children to develop an understanding of how art reflects and shapes our history, and contributes to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

At West Byfleet Infant School we aim to ensure that our children can...

- Create their own art through observation and recording.
- Use a range of techniques such as painting, drawing, print, collage and sculpture.
- Use a range of materials to create colour, texture, patterns, lines and shapes.
- Evaluate their own art and artwork of others.
- Talk about influential artists and designers.
- Understand how art fits into wider World and influences culture.

Teaching and Learning

In all year groups, a teacher will plan art and design using the year group overview focusing on key knowledge and skills. The overview links learning with the main project for the term. In KS1 teachers plan art using the process of 'responding to artwork', 'making and practicing skills' and 'the final piece'.

This means that teachers begin a sequence of lessons by focusing on an artist and artwork. Children explore significant people, artwork and movements and learn how art links with historical events, science and geography. Children then 'respond to Art' by analysing and evaluating the work of famous artists..

Children are then given the opportunities to 'practice their skills' using a range of artistic materials and techniques. Pupils will develop their technical skills in art by making their own creations. They are given opportunities to select the best materials and techniques to develop an idea. Children explore malleable materials, paper, fabric, paint, printing, pencil, ink, charcoal, pen as well as natural materials. They use the properties of different materials to create a range of patterns, textures and lines, and explore shape, form and space. Children use drawing, painting and sculpture to explore the human form.

Children then complete their 'Final Piece' of art where they apply the skills that they have learned. Pupils are guided by teachers but have the freedom to be creative, developing their own ideas, and creating their own unique works of art. The specific teaching of key vocabulary is implemented to support the teaching of knowledge in art so that children 'know more and remember more'.

In the EYFS team, there is ongoing provision for children to access both inside and outside the classroom. Children will learn in a thematic way and cover the aspects of being imaginative and exploring and using a wide variety of media and materials.

Resources

Every classroom has access to basic art and design resources including sketching pencils, colouring pencils, wax crayons, paints and paint brushes. Other art resources can be found in a central school location.

Recording

The majority of work should be recorded in KS1 sketch books. This can be done through children recording their art directly in their books or through photographs of collaborative work. Evaluation of art work can be recorded with purple pen. Tapestry may be used in Reception and Year 1 to record children's learning.

Assessment

Assessments are made in line with the school assessment policy. Children demonstrate their ability in Art in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's learning in Art by making informal judgements as they observe them during practical lessons. At the end of each unit children will complete a 'final artwork', which will also help to inform teacher judgements and future planning.