

Beecroft Primary School

Art, Craft and Design Policy

Rationale

We deliver art, craft and design as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, deepening pupils' knowledge and understanding of the world. We believe that children should receive a high-quality arts education which creates interest and excitement in learning and provides them with opportunities to gain mastery of skills. We provide culturally diverse experiences and opportunities to learn about the wider world. Teachers use art, craft and design to generate language through practical processes, providing opportunities for the applications of key skills across the curriculum.

We have invested in specialist teachers who plan and deliver weekly subject specific lessons to pupils of all ages. This is extended by classroom teachers. Art, craft and design is taught to pupils in Key Stage 2 in a specialist art room.

We are committed to delivering an outstanding, exciting and inspiring art curriculum. We recently achieved the Arts Mark Gold for our arts provision. In addition to weekly lessons, pupils have opportunities to further extend their knowledge and understanding through trips, visits and exhibitions such as: the Yorkshire Sculpture Park; Salts Mill; Leeds Art Gallery and Kirkstall Art Trail. Pupils take part in art clubs and gifted and talented pupils can extend their skills and knowledge through specialist activities and exhibition work. Art, Craft and design provides a unique and enjoyable experience for children enabling them to develop skills knowledge and creativity. It helps them to express their feelings and boosts their self-esteem, and confidence.

'Children see before they speak, make marks before they write, build before they walk. But their ability to appreciate and interpret what they observe, communicate what they think and feel, or make what they imagine and invent, is influenced by the quality of their art, craft and design education.'

Ofsted 'drawing together' 2008-2011

Aims and objectives

- To deliver a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To develop pupil's visual awareness and visual literacy.
- To provide pupils with the opportunity to use art to record inner feelings and express their creative imagination.
- To develop pupils understanding of the visual elements of art and design.
- To develop pupils' critical abilities and understanding of their own and others cultural heritages.
- To provide opportunities to use artistic media to acquire mastery of skills and develop techniques.

- To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence through participation in the arts
- To ensure that pupils work alongside professional artists, visit galleries, and exhibit their work to the wider community.

This is achieved by

- High quality and inspiring teaching, planning and resources
- Rich varied and challenging learning opportunities.
- Continuity and progression of skills.
- Identifying and providing CPD for all staff
- Keeping up to date with developments in art education – i.e. NSEAD
- Giving all pupils the opportunity to take part in out of hours clubs, exhibit work to the community and take part in art related events.
- Regular trips and visits in the locality.
- Visiting artists
- Monitoring children's progression, pupil/teacher evaluations

Planning the Art curriculum

Long term plans for each key stage lead to more detailed medium-term plans with weekly learning objectives. The 5-a day policy is woven throughout individual lessons. Progression is shown within the unit and builds on knowledge and skills from previous work. The progression of skills is tracked across the key stages. All units of work refer to the National Curriculum documents and these provide the basic structure. The specialist teacher discusses units of work with class teachers and where appropriate a topic-based delivery is used. Art, Craft and Design units of work are also delivered as standalone units. The specialist teacher actively encourages class teachers to consider ways to enrich the learning opportunities for pupils across the curriculum.

Implementing the art curriculum

Effective learning in art and design requires a variety of learning and teaching approaches and the ability to select the most appropriate approach for the learner and the context. A variety of strategies may be used such as – whole class instruction, small group work, discussion, practice of basic skills, first-hand experience, ICT, visits, and workshops. Children are encouraged to learn, understand and use a specialist language.

Monitoring

Planning is monitored by the senior leaders and teaching through the performance management system and the subject coordinator.

Differentiation

This is achieved mainly through outcome but is also focused on specific differentiated tasks, targeted at both the more able and those children who are working towards the expected standard for their year group.

Equal opportunities

We aim for all children to have equal access to the art and design curriculum – this is reflected in the planning. Please refer to our equal opportunities policy

ICT

All children have the opportunity to use ICT as an additional tool to extend their learning in art.

Display

We believe that high quality display is essential to promote a sense of pride and achievement in pupils. We aim to celebrate children's work throughout the school.

Date: Sept 2023

Review date: Sept 2024

Anna Pickard - Specialist teacher of Art, Craft and Design.