



SIR ROBERT GEFFERY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

A School for Enthusiasts

*Where we 'live life in its fullness' (John 10.10)
Knowing that God is our strength and with
His help we will be the best we can*

Art & Design Curriculum Statement

Intent

Our intent is to build an Arts curriculum which develops learning and results in pupils knowing more, remembering more, and understanding how knowledge and skills can be applied to their own work. It will enable pupils to create work with a real purpose in terms of displaying and sharing the pieces they create and showcasing the skills and progress they have made.

We want to provide a balanced and broad curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils. This will prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences in later life.

In addition to the curriculum, we believe it is our duty to provide 'real life' experience within the Arts for the children during their time at Sir Robert Geffery's to inspire and encourage them to understand how the Arts play an integral part in their lives and potential future careers. Children do not just experience the arts; they are active participants and create their own works of art.

We have designed a progressive curriculum with appropriate subject knowledge and skills with key themes by taking inspiration from not only the greats but a wide range of past and present artists of both sexes, from across the globe, developing ideas, designing, creating and evaluating so that children can reach and exceed their potential at Sir Robert Geffery's School and beyond.

Long term intentions are that children will be able to apply the skills acquired within Arts lessons to cross-curricular topics, allowing children to use their skills to reflect on and explore topics in greater depth.

Implementation

Our Art and Design curriculum has been designed by a subject specialist, with a focus on ensuring that all areas of the Art and Design curriculum is covered during each year that a child spends at Sir Robert Geffery's School.

Curriculum audit - As a school we undertook a review and audit of the curriculum we offer to the children, ensuring that the children's voice was heard through this process. This involved looking at the best research

and information available on how children learn most effectively and specifically in the areas of Art and Design. We have taken special consideration when identifying which artists to expose children to, with a focus on ensuring that they lead to a greater understanding of different ways of life and a respect for cultures that are very different from our own and yet how they can enrich our own lives. Our curriculum contains diverse areas of the Art and Design from all cultures and societies. This includes bringing in outside visitors, who share their breadth and experience of the Arts into the school environment and inviting children to learn and take inspiration from them. In addition, we seek opportunities to take pupils out into the community to experience art.

As a school we have determined that our definition of learning is a change to the long-term memory. This means that the way we implement our curriculum maps involves repetitive teaching of the key concepts in art. Each unit has built in practise, retrieval and reinforcement of the key concepts to ensure knowledge sticks in the long-term memory.

In order to develop children's cultural capital, links are made with other subjects and it is made explicit where the links are. For learning to stick in the long-term memory we teach art and design knowledge in meaningful contexts and in a connected way.

Revisiting and building upon core skills ensures that pupils are actively progressing within their knowledge and application of skills.

Knowledge organisers provide a foundation for the learning for each topic and include: vocabulary, significant art movements, past and present artists of importance, key skills and techniques.

We also provide further artistic opportunities for pupils through extracurricular activities such as our after school art clubs.

Impact

Studying the Art and Design, including drawing, painting, printing, textiles, collage and 3D form, has numerous benefits across the primary curriculum. Our truly creative curriculum has the power to motivate and energise pupils; it develops creative and critical thinking, problem solving, language, and fine motor skills.

In addition to the curriculum, 'real life' experience within Art and Design inspires and encourages children to understand how the Arts play an integral part in their lives and potential future careers.