

# **ST JAMES' ART AND DESIGN POLICY**

This policy has the School's Motto at its heart.

**Faith in action,  
Growing together,  
Walking in the footsteps of Christ**

## **AIM**

At St James' our aim for Art and Design is to develop the creativity of all staff and all children through appreciation, investigation, understanding and making. We aim to teach high quality art sessions which equip children with the necessary tools to develop their own creative skills. We expect children to develop their skills of drawing, painting, sculpting and other art, craft and design techniques. Children will study a variety of diverse, current and contemporary artists. Each year group will have artists who directly link to their learning. We will hold annual art days to increase and raise the profile of art and creativity across the school.

## **DELIVERY**

The National Curriculum Art and Design programme of study sets the skills which should be taught for each key stage, and the standards expected of pupils as they progress. Each year group will be taught Art and Design. The topics in each year group and the skills taught develop the children's learning over time and show progression in the subject.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

At St James' we believe that the characteristics of high-quality teaching and learning in Art and Design are that children:

- are taught a different skill in each topic;
- develop increasing control over tools and techniques;
- encounter a range of materials to explore and manipulate;
- develop a sophisticated vocabulary for describing and responding to pieces of art;
- are able to mix colour and manipulate it for different purposes;
- develop observational skills;
- gain confidence to explore new mediums, combining techniques that they have learnt.
- have their creativity fostered through deep and open discussions about artwork which is shown to them as well as their own artwork.
- become independent in using all art resources;
- develop creative thought and action and the ability and confidence to innovate, initiate, discriminate and make personal responses;
- learn about a variety of artists;
- value the artistic heritage of this country and other cultures.

All teaching in all units of work should allow the children to:

- explore and develop ideas;
- investigate and make;
- comment on and explore artists.
- make mistakes.

Depending on the unit of work, children can work individually, in pairs or in small groups.

## **PLANNING**

At St James' we have chosen units to match the developing skills of the children. We use a variety of sources to develop skills and link art with other subject areas.

## **EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE**

Art at St James' supports the area of learning of Expressive Arts and Design.

Year group			
Reception	Throughout Reception, children build on and learn how to create simple representations of events, people and objects. They learn how to hold and use a variety of materials in different contexts. They learn how to use colour for particular purposes and meaning. Children are taught to become independent with art tools, selecting tools and techniques competently and appropriately in order to shape, assemble and join materials. A multi-sensory approach is used.		
1	Becoming an artist. (consolidating basic skills)	Self - Portraits (oil pastels/paint)	Investigating Materials
2	Paint- Patterns in Nature (mother nature)	Reflections/Symmetry	Enhance creativity: Free choice afternoon developing skills and ideas.
3	Sculptures - Clay	Still life	Enhance creativity: Free choice afternoon developing skills and ideas.
4	Architecture	Painting in the Style of abstract artists	Enhance creativity: Free choice afternoon developing skills and ideas.
5	Painting in the style of the Impressionists	Proportion (portraying relationships)	Enhance creativity: Free choice afternoon developing skills and ideas
6	Perspective in landscapes	Screen Printing	Enhance creativity: Free choice afternoon developing skills and ideas.

### **TIME**

Every year group undertakes different art units. Teachers will teach two topics over the year. The third term will be left free so that teachers can have a free choice creative afternoon to enhance skills in different ways. Each unit has a given time scale on it from 8 to 15 hours with most topics running for 8 -12 lessons. When units have started, art lessons will be taught weekly unless the topic needs to be blocked and taught over 2-3 weeks (such as clay). At least two cross curricular additional art activities are carried out to enhance the learning in other subjects and to create displays around the school.

### **ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING**

Long term planning indicates the expectations and skills that the children should learn. There is guidance provided to both scaffold children and extend children's art skills. At the end of each unit teachers will assess the children based on their skills and not necessarily their outcome. Teachers will assess the children from statements from the National Curriculum and Classroom Monitor. The subject leader will carry out work scrutinies of sketch books, lesson observations and pupil interviews as well as map progression in the subject.

### **MARKING POLICY**

In general, differentiation is by outcome. Staff at St James' should refer to the Marking Policy. All artwork is to be marked and when appropriate children are to be given questions to reflect on and improve their artwork. Children may respond in purple pen.

### **DISPLAYS**

Displays are seen as a valued mode of appreciation of the children's work and demonstrate how their new skills and ideas are interpreted. Every opportunity is given to display work around the school in a colourful, stimulating manner with displays being changed on a regular basis to reflect new areas covered. Please refer to the Display Policy.

### **SKETCHBOOKS:**

Sketchbooks are used throughout the school by the children as a means of demonstrating how new skills have been explored and practised by the individual using a range of media. Topic pages for each topic are stuck in which highlight the focus skill, key artist and vocabulary to be used. The back of sketchbooks may be used for the children to have 'free sketch time' and to practise drawing.

### **RESOURCES**

Each class has their own supply of basic resources such as card, scissors and glue whilst more specific materials and posters are kept in the stockroom. Outside each classroom there is an art area where brushes, paint and pallets are kept. Classes share sinks and children and staff are expected to clean and organise their own resources

at the end of each lesson. When sculpture topics are taught, clay is purchased and this is organised by the class teacher prior to the topic. There are computer-based drawing programs which encourage creativity and expression and also a digital camera and i-pads which provide opportunities to create images and enhance them.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be updated in line with any new developments in the school and/or any new government guidance.

It was last reviewed in: spring 2023  
It will next be reviewed in: spring 2026

This statement of policy was approved by the Governing Body at their meeting on:-

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Chairperson)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Head teacher)