



Art & Design Policy – October 2017

Together We
Inspire Enjoy Achieve



Introduction

At Godmanchester Community Academy we teach art and design as part of a broad creative curriculum. We aspire to equip our children with the ability to become confident, creative and imaginative artists. Art and design stimulates creativity and imagination, providing visual, tactile and sensory experiences as a unique way of understanding and responding to the world.

We aim is to provide every child with the opportunity to experience and enjoy art and design through a range of different media. We strive to challenge the abilities and aptitudes of pupils, encouraging them to express their own ideas through means of creativity.

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time”.

By Thomas Merton

Aims

At Godmanchester we aim to:

- Enable children to become visually literate, developing their understanding of art as a form of visual and tactile communication.
- Develop skills, both creative and technical so that children can develop their ideas and produce artefacts.
- Develop imaginative and original thought and encourage experimentation.
- Nurture and develop children's enthusiasm and enjoyment towards art and design.
- Nurture and develop the child's capacity to learn about and observe the world in which they live, both locally and globally.
- Develop the children's ability to express and communicate ideas, opinions and feelings about their own work and that of others.
- Encourage the children to value the contributions made by artists and designers, responding thoughtfully, critically and imaginatively to different ideas, images and objects from other cultures as well as our own.

Curriculum Organisation

Continuity and Progression:

At Godmanchester, children will develop their knowledge, skills and understanding through a variety of activities set out following the National Primary Curriculum. Each year group will cover progressively more complex aspects of drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and textiles.

Children will build upon their existing knowledge to ensure continuity and progression, and this will be evident in the planning for each year.

The development of skills will be evident in the sketchbooks of children as they move through the school. Children will be encouraged to spend time looking back through their art work to develop their own sense of progression.

Sketchbooks:

All children from Year 1 onwards will have their own sketchbook. The children will be encouraged to use their sketchbooks within lessons as an aid for recording, exploring and storing visual and other information and notes, which can later be used as a reference. They will use their sketchbooks for working out ideas, planning and creating designs as well as a space that they can use to practise and develop individual art skills. The children will be encouraged to use their sketchbooks as a point of reference when completing a larger or final piece of artwork.

Time Allocation:

Each year group is allocated an hour a week for the teaching of art and design, staff have the flexibility to adapt this as necessary. This may include either individual lessons to develop the children's individual art skills or a series of lessons which may be followed by a session where skills and techniques are applied.

Displays:

(Also see separate Display policy). Children's artwork will be celebrated through class and school displays. They should be given the opportunity to discuss and arrange displays of work within the classroom. Artwork will also be displayed in the wider community.

Resources:

Paper, card, tissue paper, crepe paper etc. is kept within the cupboards at the back of the stage for whole school use. Fabrics and design and technology materials are kept in the DT store, as are bags of air-drying clay for general use. Children should have access in the classroom to general materials and should be encouraged to care for and maintain them.

Teaching and Learning Strategies:

Throughout the key stages children will experience working individually, in groups and as a whole class. They will be given opportunities to develop, use and apply the skills that they have acquired. They will begin to use and explore a wide range of media. They will be learning to plan, develop and adapt their ideas and compare and discuss styles of artwork including their own.

Teaching will be led through:

- Careful planning incorporating progression.
- Practical demonstration of skills.
- The setting of challenging activities.
- Encouragement and further development of experimentation.
- Purposeful discussion and comparisons of artwork and the children's own work.

Links to other areas of the Curriculum

Art and design has close links with many other areas of the curriculum, in particular, Design and Technology, Geography, History and RE.

Here at Godmanchester Community Academy we strongly believe in a cross-curricular approach to teaching and learning, not only as a means of consolidating our children's knowledge and understanding of the subject but also as a way of making it more meaningful to the pupils.

Through the art and design curriculum taught, children will also have opportunities to develop other areas of their learning and well-being, such as:

- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Communication
- Application of number
- IT skills
- Work with others
- Improving pupils own learning and performances
- Problem solving
- Thinking skills
- Enterprise and entrepreneurial skills
- Work-related learning

Health and Safety

At all times, children will be taught how to care for and handle equipment and media safely and with respect.

When working with tools, equipment and materials, pupils will be taught:

- To recognise hazards, assess risks and take steps to control the risks to themselves and others.
- To use information to assess the immediate and cumulative risks.
- To manage their environment to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others.
- To explain the steps they take to control risk.

Staff should be aware of the County guidance on health and safety.

Equal Opportunities

At Godmanchester Community Academy we aim to provide effective learning opportunities for all pupils in this curriculum area. Every child should have the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible, whilst acknowledging pupils' individual learning needs.

The art curriculum is available to all children regardless of gender, cultural background, educational need, religion etc. A wide variety of art is used from different cultural traditions and backgrounds and religious traditions. These are used to support and give examples of different artistic styles and techniques and also to highlight the importance of art in various aspects of life.

Children with specific educational or additional needs will have the same access to art and design, although it may be necessary to differentiate the art curriculum to suit their needs. It is our belief that these children experience success and satisfaction through art. As art is a means of communication that is not bound by written and spoken language, it enables pupils with educational needs of all kinds to develop a capacity for self-expression.

School and Community

Our school has close links with our community and should be alert to opportunities to develop links within the locality. We seek to encourage people with special talents to work within the school.

Review, Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting

A yearly overview of the areas covered in art and design by each year group is submitted and collected by the art co-ordinator at the beginning of each academic year and more detailed plans collected every term. The art and design curriculum will be monitored through lesson observations, annual reviews of sketchbooks and discussions with both staff and pupils. To showcase the children's work a portfolio of art is collected annually. These examples will illustrate achievement

and progression throughout the school and should be used comparatively by staff when making judgements and writing reports.

Professional Development

This will be recorded within the co-ordinators file and will include any art and design inset that any member of staff attends (including support staff).

This Policy was compiled by Rebecca Fox and reviewed by Heidi Colthart - Art & Design subject leader 2017/18

Policy Details	Date	Name
Policy approved by Senior Management:	October 2017	Claire Wood
Policy approved by Senior Governor	October 2017	Roger Coxhead
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Policy Section: Section 1A – Curriculum Policies (Pupils)

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