

Curriculum overview for parents and carers

Art and design

Summary of key Art and design learning for Reception to Year 5/6.



EYFS: Reception			
Drawing	Marvellous marks	Autumn lesson	Autumn wreaths Using natural items to create autumnal wreaths.
	Exploring mark-making and the language of texture, children use wax crayons and chalk to make rubbings on different surfaces. They use felt tips to explore colour and pencils to create observational drawings of their faces.	Christmas lesson	Salt dough decorations Creating and decorating Christmas tree decorations.
Painting and mixed media	Paint my world	Winter lesson	Threaded snowflakes Using threading skills to create snowflakes with pipe cleaners and beads.
	Creating child-led paintings using fingers and natural items as tools, children learn that colours can be mixed and that paintings can be abstract or figurative. They make collages and explore different painting techniques to create splatter pictures.	Spring lesson	Suncatcher Collecting flower petals to create card suncatchers.
Sculpture and 3D	Creation station	Easter lesson	Egg threading Threading coloured wool to create an egg pattern.
	Manipulating playdough and clay to make animal sculptures and their own creations, children begin to use language associated with forces: push, pull, twist, etc. They create natural landscape pictures using items they have found outdoors.	Summer lesson	Salt painting Creating bold paintings in salt and paint.
Craft and design	Let's get crafty		
	Focusing on process over product, children develop their cutting, threading, manipulation and joining skills. The unit culminates in designing a flower for a class flower garden.		

Year 1/2 Cycle A

	Exploring line and shape	Understanding tone and texture
Drawing	Exploring line and shape through a range of materials and stimuli, children develop control and creativity as they investigate the work of artists Bridget Riley and Paul Klee. Inspired by these artists, the children experiment with expressive mark-making and portrait drawing. They learn how lines can vary in appearance and form shapes and begin to recognise shapes within forms to help them draw more accurately.	Developing drawing skills by exploring and experimenting with a range of materials, the children make marks that suggest surface texture and light and dark. They learn how to build a drawing by sketching basic shapes and adding detail, leading to a final observational piece that shows an emerging understanding of shading and texture.
Craft and design	Woven wonders Learning fibre art skills such as plaiting, threading, knotting and weaving to create three-dimensional woven artworks inspired by artist Cecilia Vicuña. Children will develop skills such as measuring, choosing materials, and resilience in artistic creation.	Map it out Responding to a design brief, children create a piece of art that represents their local area using a map as their stimulus. Their ideas are developed through the creative techniques of stained glass style, basic printing, and either felt making or creating art in relief.

Year 3/4 Cycle A

	Year 3/4 Cycle A	
Drawing	Developing drawing skills	Exploring tone, texture and proportion
	Developing drawing skills through observation, shape and tone, the children practise drawing objects using simple shapes, building even tones with pencil and adding detail by closely observing pattern and texture. They apply these skills in imaginative plant drawings and explore how to recreate their ideas as digital artwork.	Exploring tone, texture and proportion to create realistic and expressive drawings, the children take inspiration from artists Sarah Graham, Nicola McBride and Beatriz Milhazes. Using sweets, wrappers and bold patterns as stimuli, the children develop skills in shading, mark-making and composition to produce detailed drawings with a strong sense of form and proportion.
Craft and design	Ancient Egyptian scrolls	Fabric of nature
	Learning about the way colour, scale and pattern influenced ancient Egyptian art, children explore the technique of papermaking to create a papyrus-style scroll. Children may also extend their learning to create a modern response by designing a 'zine' (a mini-book made from folding a single piece of paper).	Using the flora and fauna of tropical rainforests as a starting point, children develop drawings through experimentation and textile-based techniques to a design a repeating pattern suitable for fabric.

Year 5/6 Cycle A

Drawing	Depth, emotion and movement	Expressing ideas
	Exploring how drawing can express emotion, movement and depth, the children take inspiration from artists Charlie Mackesy and Elizabeth Catlett. They use expressive lines and marks to convey feeling and energy, develop shading techniques to show depth and form and investigate composition through drawing and printmaking. This leads to a final piece that combines personal ideas with artist influence.	Exploring how drawing can be used to express ideas and messages, the children take inspiration from a range of street art examples. They investigate how artists use perspective, scale and proportion to create impact, then develop these skills to design and create a street art-inspired final piece about sustainability and the environment.
Craft and design	Architecture	Photo opportunity
	Investigating the built environment through drawing and printmaking. Pupils learn about the work of architect Zaha Hadid, create their own building designs, present research on the artist Hundertwasser and explore ideas behind the symbolism of monument design.	Exploring photography as a medium for expressing ideas, children investigate scale and composition, colour, and techniques for adapting finished images. They use digital media to design and create photographic imagery for a specific design brief.