

Art and Design at St Mary's

"I am seeking. I am striving. I am in it with all my heart." Vincent van Gogh

Our Vision

Here at St Mary's we see art as a fantastic way for **all** children of **all** ages to express themselves, be creative and to explore. We teach Art and Design to engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with knowledge and skills to experiment and create their own artwork.



Our Art Curriculum

In Early Years, children are given the opportunity to be imaginative, explore different materials and develop their ideas. They practise their handling, moving and control skills through painting and drawing.

In Key Stage 1, pupils are given opportunities to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products through drawing, painting and sculpture. They explore different techniques using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

In Key Stage 2, children will build on what they have learned in Key Stage 1, improving their skills in drawing, painting and sculpture using a range of different materials. They use sketchbooks to record their learning and revisit skills taught. Children learn about great artists and designers in history and create work in inspiration of this.



Why is Art important?

Children need a broad education that includes the arts. It is a firm favourite for many of the children at St Mary's, giving them opportunities to express themselves. Art often boosts children's confidence, self-esteem and enthusiasm when learning.



Links to Wider School Life

Here at St Mary's exploring the Arts is built into all areas of the curriculum wherever possible. It is linked to topics and the wider curriculum as it gives children the chance to bring topics to life.

Artwork is celebrated around the school. Children communicate what they see, feel and think through Art and they are encouraged to self evaluate their work and be resilient to achieve their goals. The use of sketchbooks in Key Stage 2 to record experience, imagination and thoughts help children to develop their ideas and show progression of their artistic ability. Children are given opportunities to work artistically not only independently but by working in collaboration with others. With Art, there is no right or wrong – each child's artwork is valued in its own right and the child has the authority to say what it communicates.



"Art is not just a subject to learn, but an activity that you can practise with your hands, your eyes, your whole personality." Quentin Blake