

Art & Design

Firsy Foundation

Intent

At Firs Primary we are committed to providing a high quality Art and Design education that will engage, inspire and challenge pupils, giving them the knowledge and skills to produce their own high quality art work.

We are dedicated to ensuring that every child is given the chance to become proficient in a range of different mediums such as drawing, painting and sculpting. Children will learn about great artists and designers and learn to evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.

Through our well thought out curriculum children are given the opportunity to build on their vocabulary, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work. Children are taught to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials such as pastel, charcoal, pencil, paint and clay.

Art at Firs not only develops the children's knowledge within the classroom but it allows children to explore their love of art further through the links we have with Art Core, The SHED and Derby theatre where children are encouraged to design and create their own scenery.

Throughout the year Parents are invited to a variety of art exhibitions giving the children a chance to proudly exhibit their work.

Implementation

The teaching and implementation of the Art and Design curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and our curriculum progression documents. Both documents ensure that all children are exposed to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Curriculum booklets give staff lists of Tier 1,2 and 3 vocabulary and clearly outline what is expected of Forever Firs children working at ARE. They provide staff with the key knowledge and skills to be learned. With clear progression guidance staff have the confidence, professional knowledge and tools to deliver exciting and progressive Art and Design lessons.

Each child has their own sketch book where core skills are built up over each half term. At the beginning of each topic children are asked to complete a 'Cold task'. This allows for staff to assess their skills and knowledge. Staff will then use this knowledge to plan accordingly for all children, ensuring that Forever Firs, SEND and G&T are all catered for. Over the course of the half term children will learn a range of skills which will culminate into a big piece of art work at the end of the half term known as the 'Warm task'.

All lessons are designed to be inclusive so no matter what a child's need or background lessons will be differentiated accordingly to ensure that all children are able to access Art and Design at Firs.

At Firs we like to ensure that all staff are given the highest quality training. This year we have worked closely with Debbie Watson from ISHA. Debbie has lead two twilight sessions on how high quality drawing and painting skills can engage and inspire children to produce high quality pieces of art work.

Afterschool clubs such as sewing and knitting also provide children with the opportunity to develop their skills further.

Impact

Progress and attainment is monitored through book scrutinies, pupil and staff voice, lesson observations and analysis of data which is completed on the relevant assessment grid at the end of each topic.

By offering children a curriculum which is tailored to their needs and through work with outside agencies we hope to see that all children, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds and with SEND have the chance to succeed. These experiences will help build on each child's cultural capital, ensuring that skills which have been learnt have been remembered, therefore allowing for new knowledge bases to be created and built upon year in year out.