



Shipham
C of E First School

Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community



Art & Design

Intent, Implementation and Impact statement

Intent

At Shipham First School, our Art & Design curriculum is designed to nurture creativity, self-expression, and an early appreciation of art in all its forms. Through a hands-on, enquiry-based approach, we aim to provide a joyful and inclusive experience that allows every child—regardless of background or ability—to flourish and express themselves with confidence. Our goals are to:

- **Inspire Creativity:** Encourage pupils to explore their imaginations and develop original ideas using a range of materials and techniques such as drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, and digital tools.
- **Build Artistic Skills:** Introduce and develop core artistic techniques in a progressive, age-appropriate way, so that children gain confidence in using different media and processes.
- **Foster Cultural Curiosity:** Give pupils the chance to explore a wide variety of artistic styles, traditions, and artists—past and present—from different cultures and communities.
- **Support Emotional Well-being:** Provide a safe space where children can express their thoughts and feelings visually, helping them build confidence, resilience, and a sense of pride in their achievements.
- **Encourage Collaboration:** Promote teamwork and shared creativity through group art projects, helping children to learn from each other and develop their social and communication skills.

Implementation

To bring our Art & Design curriculum to life, we use the following strategies:

- **Curriculum Design:** Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum and is enhanced by imaginative, creative lesson plans that spark curiosity. Where appropriate, we link art to topics in other subjects such as history, geography, and science to deepen children's understanding.
- **Clear Skill Progression:** Our carefully planned curriculum ensures pupils build on their learning year by year—from mark-making in Early Years to more detailed techniques in Key Stage 1 and early Key Stage 2—so children can clearly see their progress.
- **Diverse Resources:** We provide a wide variety of high-quality materials including paint, clay, pastels, natural materials, and digital tools. This supports all learning styles and encourages children to try new ways of working.
- **Confident, Creative Teaching:** Teachers are supported through regular CPD and access to expert guidance, giving them the skills to deliver inspiring and engaging art lessons with confidence.
- **Community Connections:** We enrich our curriculum through partnerships with local artists, galleries, and the wider community—offering experiences such as workshops, visits, and art-focused events to connect learning with the real world.
- **Assessment for Growth:** We assess children's work in a meaningful and age-appropriate way—through observation, discussion, and celebration of their creations. Feedback is gentle, encouraging, and focused on each child's progress and enjoyment.

Impact

The impact of our Art & Design curriculum is reflected in the creativity, confidence, and enthusiasm of our pupils:

- **Creative Confidence:** Pupils show growing skill and imagination in their artwork, and many go beyond expectations for their age in their creative thinking and expression.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Children develop curiosity about the world through art, learning about different styles, artists, and cultures, and showing empathy and interest in diversity.
- **Well-being and Personal Growth:** Art gives children a powerful outlet for expression. It supports their emotional development, builds resilience, and boosts their self-esteem.
- **Positive Relationships and Community Spirit:** Collaborative art projects help children to work together, celebrate each other's ideas, and contribute to a shared sense of belonging.

Wider Curriculum Success: Skills developed in Art—such as observation, problem-solving, and perseverance—support learning across all subjects, contributing to well-rounded academic and personal development.

In summary, Art & Design at Shipham First School offers every child the chance to explore, create, and thrive. By nurturing imagination and expression from the earliest stages, we help children become confident, thoughtful learners who appreciate the beauty and value of art in their lives and in the world around them.

