

Art and Design

At Elmlea Schools Trust our Art and Design Curriculum ensures all children have the opportunity to explore their ideas, record experiences and produce creative, imaginative work. We aim to develop the talents, creativity, and confidence of children through a fun, cross-curricular approach which focuses on a progression of artistic skills, extends cultural horizons, and provides a platform for self-expression. The curriculum has been designed to ensure that all children's artwork is celebrated through their own creative journey. Children will become confident and proficient in a variety of techniques including drawing, painting, sculpting, as well as other selected craft skills, e.g. collage, printing, weaving and patterns. Children will also develop their knowledge of styles and vocabulary by exploring and evaluating the work of famous local and world-wide artists, designers, craft makers.

In EYFS, the curriculum has been designed to give children creative freedom to express themselves through art, whilst also ensuring children learn specific skills focused around colour, patterns and texture, drawing and painting, design and making, and learning how to use tools correctly. Resources are made readily available and whilst support is offered to those who need it, pupils are encouraged to explore the resources with growing independence. The class teacher leads the teaching of key skills and children work in small groups to practise these and produce final pieces of work. Children explore a range of styles of art by drawing on work of famous artists. With the support of a teacher, they discuss the work and use specific styles of art to influence their own pieces of work. Children are encouraged to discuss their work as they go, thinking about what they like about it, or what they would like to improve. Key vocabulary is modelled by the teacher throughout the lessons and children are taught how to use the correct vocabulary during their discussions.

In KS1, Art is taught by the class teacher. Each year group works on at least one art project per term, which often supports the termly year group topic. These projects focus on a specific skill or skills and allow pupils the opportunity to build on their previous learning. Included in these projects is work for school displays. For display work, briefs are provided, which include explicit skills for the year groups to focus on. The displays aim to celebrate the children's creativity and allows pupils and staff to see the clear progression through key stages. Key vocabulary is taught at the beginning of each lessons and referred to throughout. Sketchbooks have recently been introduced to encourage ownership of work and creative freedom. They allow children to practise skills and techniques in their own space and offer pupils a place to record their own unique creative journey. The evaluation of work is completed alongside the children. At the end of each session, a five to ten minute circle time allows children to discuss and reflect on the skills and techniques they have learnt and applied. It is a time to celebrate success and discuss ways to develop their skills. During this reflection time, the teacher will use questions and sentence prompts to help, and children are encouraged to use appropriate vocabulary.

Art and Design at Key Stage 2 is based on the Primary National Curriculum which is then personalised for our school. Art lessons are planned in upper and lower school phases and are delivered by the class teacher. There is an emphasis on Art supporting other subjects, for example, enriching descriptive vocabulary or understanding of Literature in English, complementing History and Geography topics or providing an insight into other Religions and World Views. Our curriculum is designed to spiral from Years 3 to Years 6, revisiting key vocabulary and skills for consolidation and then challenging the children to extend their knowledge and skills. In Key Stage Two, children are encouraged to become increasingly independent in their use of sketchbooks to develop their self-expression and to explore a range of mediums and techniques firmly rooted in the visual elements of art and design (line,

tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape and form). Through annotating their reflections in their sketchbooks, the children demonstrate an increasingly sophisticated articulation of critical thinking. Art lessons introduce a range of artists' work across different time periods and cultures and children are encouraged through discussion, to develop their understanding of and opinion on an increasingly complex works of art. We recognise that creative achievement is an important vehicle for building self-esteem and a sense of self, and the children's work is celebrated in class during feedback sessions, in whole school displays and with parents and carers at home.

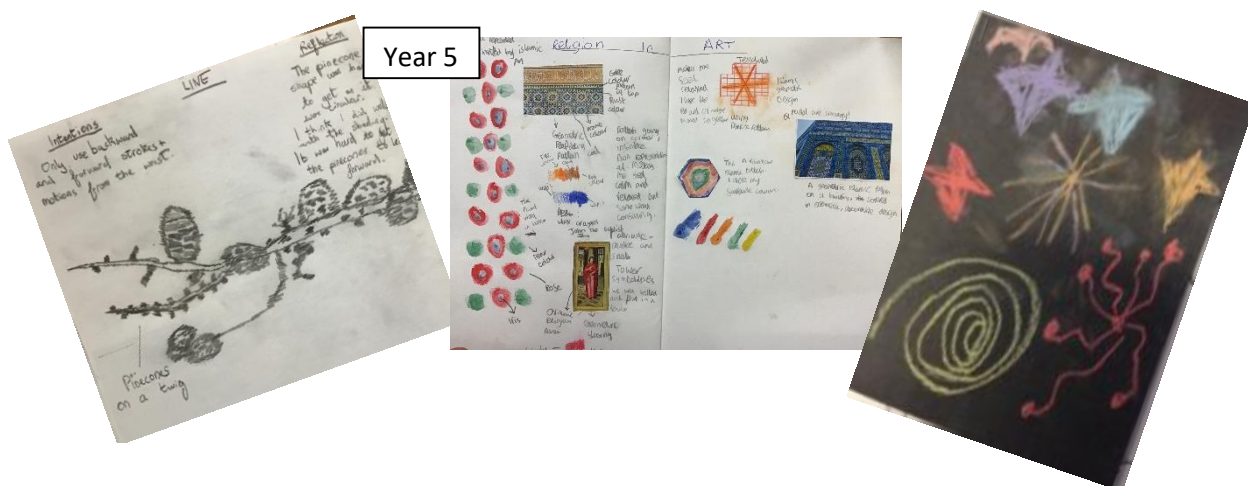
The units taught coincide with the two-year topic cycle that is implemented at Elmlea which provides collaborative enrichment opportunities for both lower and upper school. Year 3 and 4 cover Egyptian Art, proportion, clay sculptures, colour mixing, drawing and texture with a focus on seascapes inspired by famous artists. Year 5 and 6 units cover Greek Pots, expressions of spirituality in Religion, lino printing, and sketching figures and sculpting figures.

Across the school, the children are continuously encouraged to be reflective and evaluative in their work, thinking about how they can make changes to aid their progression. The evidence of their work is collected within the art sketchbook as well as final pieces of work. By using sketchbooks, this allows the children to externalise their thoughts, make connections and deepen their artistic understanding through their own visual creative journey.

In years 3 to 6, Art is taught weekly every other term - alternating with DT - by the class teacher. The key vocabulary is introduced at the start of each lesson all the while continuously being reinforced throughout the rest of the unit. All lessons, resources and activities are differentiated to enable all children to have the ability to express themselves in a way most accessible to them.

Besides our curriculum lessons, we celebrate Art through our annual 'Arts Week'. This enrichment opportunity permits the children to immerse themselves in a week of creativity alongside artistic workshops conducted by experienced Art practitioners, where all of the work produced is celebrated at the end of the week. In addition, extra-curricular opportunities such as Craft Club are available for the children to partake in.

Art and Design Curriculum Leaders: Hatti Wilson, Emma Scott and Rachel Cosgrove





Year 4



Year 1

