

Art and Design



At St Hugh's, we believe that a rich and varied creative experience is at the heart of our curriculum and enables all children, regardless of needs or culture, to effectively communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings. During their time with us, our children have access to a wide variety of materials and are taught a variety of methods and techniques.

Last year, we invested in an engaging new art scheme of work that is further complimented with ideas and teachings from a wider art community. This ensures that thorough coverage of art knowledge and skills are taught and ensures a diverse selection of artists are included from diverse disciplines and backgrounds. Additionally, local artists are encouraged to visit the school to share their work and lead workshops focussing on different techniques and skills.

At our school, we are committed to nurturing our children in order for them to grow and develop as confident, independent and individually creative artists. To this end, we have established the use of sketchbooks as integral to art practice in both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. Children use their sketchbooks to explore and develop use of materials and techniques, record and research ideas and importantly, evaluate their work. Children are encouraged to build on their learning by asking questions such as, what happens if....? Which medium works best? They are encouraged to select their own implements and they learn to take care of these.

Sketchbooks reflect each child's personal learning journey and children have complete ownership of them. Rather than formally marking work, teachers have discussions with pupils, encouraging them to annotate using key vocabulary in a way that demonstrates awareness of learning and targets to move forward. Sketchbooks may be used in stand-alone sessions, when learning particular skills or as part of a project. Sketchbooks are a safe space for our young artists to work and develop their ideas and creativity independently.

Each year, children begin their learning with the formal elements of art, applying their knowledge of these in exciting ways. They then work on developing their art and design skills, working in both 2D and 3D form. They will then take on a design project. Our reception children have ample opportunity to explore, create and learn fundamental skills in informal and guided sessions in our Early Years setting. The work they do and the



vocabulary they learn provides a strong foundation to be built upon in Key Stage One.

Throughout their time at St Hugh's, children are introduced to a range of artists and designers with the intention that the knowledge they acquire may help to inspire them when developing their own style.

Sketchbooks are passed up to the child's next class to be continued. The children very much enjoy looking back at previous work and can be seen using aspects – for example, exploration of different materials, to make decisions when creating subsequent pieces. Teachers are also able to monitor progress year on year. When sketchbooks are complete, they will be sent home to be enjoyed (apart from some that are kept as examples).

This is what the children say:

Year One:

I feel happy when my teacher says we're doing art because it's my favourite thing.

Year Two:

I'm really good at art and I love it. We make pictures and all sorts of things. I like getting messy. I like painting best.

I like painting because I like making colours and getting messy it makes me so, so happy.



Year Three:

I like learning how to shade and colour and I like all the ways of making pictures. I feel excited when it's art time.

I feel excited when we have art. We learned all about lines which has helped me in drawing. I like the work of Jasper Johns, the way he painted numbers with colours all round them which was really cool.

I enjoy art even though I don't think I'm really good at it. I would really like to do it more often to get more practise. I've learned how to do a lot of things like shading and texture and colour mixing. My favourite is 3D work.

Year Four:

I really like art. I love doing creative things. I like drawing best.

I like art because it can teach you new things. We get to do all sorts of things, not just drawing.



Art is really fun even when the task is hard. I like a challenge. I've learned how to shade properly and how to draw portraits correctly. I've learned about different artists. I enjoyed learning about Pablo Picasso – the different stages and the meaning of the different stages.

Year Five:

I really enjoy art. I like looking at a self-portrait I did in Year 3 and knowing how much I've improved. I add much more detail now and I'm getting better at observational drawing.

I enjoy art lessons because we get to try new styles of art. I like working with water colours because although it's challenging, it makes me feel really good when I get it. I like looking at art around the school. My favourite artist is Leonardo Da Vinci and my favourite painting is The Last Supper.

Year Six:

I like art lessons because they are more free, there's no specific guidelines like there are in other subjects. I like trying out different things. I like how we learn about different artists; it makes me feel I want to work like them.



Year Six:

Art makes me feel relaxed even when I'm stressed. When I'm doing art it takes me to different worlds. I love art lessons because art is my hobby. I love experimenting and working with colour. I haven't really got a favourite artist because they all make me feel inspired.

