



Art at Gaskell Primary School

Intent:

Children will develop essential artistic skills and have the confidence, curiosity and enthusiasm to explore and deliver their art, each believing that they possess the potential for great creativity.

Why do all children at Gaskell Primary School need to study Art?

By experiencing Art, our children will understand how Art can communicate worldwide. Within our school context, wider life experiences are limited, and Art is a chance to address that. By experiencing different artists and forms children will have the opportunity to access a range of different media than what they would normally use at home. Children will have the opportunity to gain confidence in using a variety of media as they will learn how to use them successfully in order to create a finished piece of work. Additionally, pupils in our school sometimes find it difficult to talk about and express their emotions. Studying Art will allow our pupils to learn that artwork is a means for an artist to express their feelings, overcome challenges and fight for a cause.

What are the aims for the Art Curriculum?

- To be able to recall important pieces of artwork and artists and to comment on their significance and the techniques used.
- To develop basic artistic skills and build on the foundations of them every year so that by Year 6 they have a complete useful artistic skill set.
- To understand how Art often encapsulates a time period.
- To gain experience of using different media, and to practise and apply techniques
- To use Art as a tool to overcome challenges and to express ideas, emotions and thoughts.

The National Curriculum for Art aims to ensure that all pupils:

- produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
- evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design
- know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms



What values and drivers underpin the current curriculum content?

At Gaskell we have key values and drivers which support our children to be “creative minds”: In our school, children will be engaged by a curriculum rich in creativity and expression. They will be encouraged to express themselves through the medium of dance, music, art, design and drama. Individuality and self-expression is promoted whilst developing resilience, resourcefulness and risk taking when faced with more challenging tasks. Creativity is encouraged in all areas, the arts are an important aspect of our school life.

In Art we show:

Happiness: We are aware and enjoy our local community and understand how exploring art can make us happy.

Empathy: We have an understanding of current local, national and global issues and how it affects us and others.

Ambition:

Respect: We respect the artwork of others, of artists and those in our class. We understand that Art is self-expression and the interpretation of Art can vary and we need to respect that.

Resilience: We appreciate that Art can be frustrating when we are trying to perfect a piece and we work hard to continue to improve our skills.

Tolerance: We respect that other people might have different views to ourselves as we live in a diverse community

Self-confidence: Self-Belief is vital as artists to ensure we are not too hard on ourselves. Many artists have been brave and face controversial issues when sharing their work with society. Children will have the opportunity to be brave and share their learning with one another.

In Art we are:

Healthy Pioneers: It is important to us that all members of our school family are healthy – physically and mentally. Throughout life, our children will face many difficult challenges and need to have the physical and mental resilience to be successful and happy. Children are aware that their own health is an important aspect of their place in the world. We recognise the responsibility we have for the physical development and wellbeing of our children. We are passionate that a curriculum rich in sport and physical activity, along with participation in competition develops confidence, empathy and resilience.



World Citizens: We believe our children need to develop an understanding about where they live and the wider world. Through learning about the world, we want them to understand their role in today and tomorrow's world by developing respect and tolerance towards the environment, communities and religions. Children are encouraged to challenge themselves to gain high aspirations about what their future 'world of work' may look like.

Avid Adventurers: We are passionate that children are excited about the real world. We believe that a curriculum rich in real life experiences develops confidence and resilience. We want them to know that life exists outside school, their home and local community. There is a world waiting to be explored. We will allow them to manage risk-taking by having lots of fun and experiencing a little danger. These learning experiences will ignite the imagination and advance their knowledge and understanding, taking into account their diverse starting points and enrich their experiences of life.

Confident Communicators: We believe that our children need to develop the skills to work well with other people. Children need to know how to speak and listen with respect in a variety of different situations. They need the ability to read well and read widely as this broadens horizons, develops imagination and provides a rich vocabulary through which to construct knowledge and understanding of the world. Being able to write confidently, for a range of purpose and audiences, will be reflected as a key skill in our curriculum to develop this ability. We will give the children opportunities to think critically by solving problems and making choices.

Creative Minds: In our school, children will be engaged by a curriculum rich in creativity and expression. They will be encouraged to express themselves through the medium of dance, music, art, design and drama. Individuality and self-expression is promoted whilst developing resilience, resourcefulness and risk taking when faced with more challenging tasks. Creativity is encouraged in all areas, the arts are an important aspect of our school life.

How are British Values taught through Art?

British values, including those of mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs are embedded in the Art curriculum. We promote tolerance through different people's ideas, creative responses and understanding of different cultures



and styles within Art. Pupils are encouraged to question and explore what Art is studied. Pupils discuss and work in the style of a wide variety of artists and designers. British Art is studied through the curriculum. Pupils have the opportunity to work independently and as a team to build resilience and self-belief through tasks, sharing ideas and resources, peer assessment and supporting each other.

Art Intent, Implementation and Impact

Why has the specific content knowledge been selected?

The National Curriculum gives a broad spectrum of Art. This allows us to be selective with the content knowledge we provide our children. Our artists, knowledge and skills are selected with the aim of enabling a spiral curriculum in which certain concepts and techniques are revisited, but then refined and built upon. To emphasise the idea of Art being an ongoing process, key facts are often related and drawn to present day experiences so that children understand their own place within Art. In order to expand our children's vocabulary, raise aspirations, celebrate diversity and promote well-being, we make sure to celebrate artists, craft makers, architects and designers from many backgrounds. This familiarises and celebrates figures from backgrounds that our children may not be familiar with, such as people from different countries or cultures, or from an LGBT+ background.

Why is it taught in the order that it is?

Our Art curriculum is provided with the aim of making links between different historical periods and to our present day, and to build a contextual narrative of the key threads that are relevant to the children at the point of their studies in other curriculum areas. It is designed to give the children the basic artistic skills needed to develop in this subject. Every year the skills build on previous years for that "sticky knowledge" throughout school.

How are Art lessons taught at Gaskell Primary School?

At Gaskell, we value children's opinions and the ability to discuss and critique. This is essential within Art. Within all Art teaching, children should have the opportunity to form their opinion on a piece of artwork, and have the opportunity to discuss and compare with other pieces (where relevant and possible). Our teachers, backed by expert knowledge, should empower and enable our children to become artists with opinions of their own. Teachers should bring high levels of enthusiasm, to bring Art to life, while armed with a wealth of resources that let our children get hand-on with their learning. This should be supported by a range of outside providers, which will add to the children's learning.

**What is the impact?**

We ensure that children at our school are equipped with artistic skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world. We want our children to have a passion for art, and to understand the prospect that they could have a career in the arts. At the end of their time at Gaskell, we want our children to be able to analyse and evaluate art work and be respectful of others opinions. We want our children to embrace art as a way of communication regarding their thoughts, feelings, opinions and ideas.