

Art Rationale

Intent

At Smallberry Green Primary School, we value Art and Design as a vital part of a broad and balanced curriculum. We follow the Access Art Primary Art Curriculum, which provides a holistic, research-led approach designed to inspire and challenge pupils. Our intent is to equip children with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent, and create their own works of art, craft, and design.

The curriculum is built around the idea that Art is not just a technical skill, but a way of thinking and seeing. By following the Access Art progression scheme, we ensure pupils develop a rigorous understanding of art movements and artists while finding their own "creative voice." We want our pupils to understand how art reflects and shapes history, contributing to the culture and wealth of our nation.

Implementation

The teaching of Art and Design at Smallberry Green is delivered through the structured Access Art pathways, ensuring a clear spiral of progression where skills are revisited and built upon each year. The curriculum is organised into three core pillars:

- **Generating Ideas:** Using sketchbooks to explore, take risks, and collect inspirations.
- **Making:** Developing mastery in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and textiles.
- **Knowledge and Evaluation:** Developing a deep understanding of diverse artists and the ability to reflect critically on their own work.

We teach Art in dedicated blocks to allow children the "thinking time" and "making time" required for skill development. Our implementation prioritises 'Sketchbook Culture', where sketchbooks are seen as a safe space for experimentation rather than a place for perfect finished pieces. This is accompanied by artist visits, Artists of the half term and extra-curricular clubs to further enrich the children's experience.

Art and Design is taught every other half term, alternating with Design and Technology, with lessons being taught in afternoon curriculum sessions during 'Art Fortnight'. Children will then put forth their final products and sketch books for the parents gallery to present their work.

Impact

The impact of the Access Art curriculum is visible in the diverse, unique outcomes produced by our pupils. Rather than producing identical pieces of work, our children demonstrate individual creativity and personal expression.

Success is evidenced through:

- **Sketchbooks:** Which show a clear journey of exploration, trial, and error.
- **Pupil Voice:** Children are able to discuss their processes, use technical vocabulary confidently, and evaluate the work of diverse global artists.
- **Exhibitions:** High-quality outcomes are celebrated in school displays and exhibitions, showcasing the progression in skills from EYFS to Year 6.

Smallberry Green strives to be a model of good practice within Hounslow, with our displays reflecting a curriculum that values the **process of making** as much as the final product.