



## *"Through God we Laugh, Love and Learn".*

### St Michaels First School Art, Craft and Design Curriculum Intent, Impact and Implementation Statement 2026

#### **Curriculum Intent:**

At St Michael's First School we aim to encourage learners to reach their creative potential. Our art, craft and design curriculum is driven by exploration, enthusiasm and confidence. Learner's creativity is developed through opportunities to form creative thinking skills, build understanding of materials and techniques, and take part in collaboration and art-based dialogue. Our high-quality teaching and learning are underpinned within a positive, safe and supportive environment. Positivity is important and nurtures learners to explore their creativity and build their confidence. Through this, learners are facilitated to explore, discover, understand and to be expressive in art.

Through AccessArt's scheme of work we aim to provide a rich, broad, balanced, diverse and engaging art curriculum for all at St Michael's. Our scheme is written by experts in the field to create a dynamic collection of resources which helps teachers to deliver an inspiring and relevant art education. It encourages all children to feel empowered to embrace their own creativity whilst developing their knowledge and understanding with technical skills.

#### **Curriculum Implementation:**

The AccessArt scheme of work is devised five disciplines, these are:

- Drawing and Sketchbooks
- Print, Colour and Collage
- Working in Three Dimensions
- Paint, Surface, Texture
- Collaboration and Community.

Each discipline corresponds with a pathway of lessons. Pathways are sequential and allow children's skills, knowledge and understanding to be applied through a variety of ways. The formal elements from the EYFS Framework and National Curriculum are woven throughout these units. Key skills are revisited as a part of a spiral curriculum model to ensure learners have the opportunity to practise and apply skills over their learning journey at St Michael's.

Our Whole School Curriculum map shows which pathways are covered. Each pathway is flexible to form cross-curricular links within our school's curriculum. Each pathway sequences learning to provide opportunities for learners to discuss and explore artists,



make visual notes/observational drawings, design, craft, collaborate and celebrate their artwork. We aim to support and encourage learners to develop their independence in art as they use their knowledge and skills to explore and build their techniques. Through this, we ensure that learners create their own unique and personal artwork whilst meeting assessment outcomes.

Lessons are practical and encourage experimental and exploratory learning from Early Years to Year 4. Learners record mark-making opportunities within their sketchbooks, these are available for learners to use in other subjects to show the progression of their drawing skills. In addition, 'floor books' encourage a collaborative approach as photographs, outdoor learning and three-dimensional creations can be documented for learners to reflect and celebrate upon.

AccessArt supports teachers who may lack confidence in their own artistic abilities. Talking points, pedagogy videos and documents, artist pages are created to support teachers to ensure art, craft and design at St Michael's is of the highest quality. Each pathway links to documents and videos for teachers to be inspired themselves, build their knowledge and support their own ongoing CPD. AccessArt invites members to join regular CPD events to deepen pedagogical understanding and share inspirational ideas. AccessArt has created a rich, broad, balanced, diverse and engaging curriculum with their own understanding that teachers may need guidance to build their own confidence in art, craft and design.

### **Curriculum Impact:**

AccessArt's curriculum is designed to involve children in collaboration and decision-making to inspire 'big thinking' in creativity. Pathways ensure that skills and knowledge are taught to create a journey of art, craft and design for our learners. Each step grows children's knowledge, skills and understanding which encourages them to become artists. Through providing rich opportunities, learners are able to build their 'big thinking' as they piece their experiences and skills together. By creating an environment in which learners can collaborate, decision make and be inspired, we can increase their confidence, enthusiasm, skills and knowledge in art. Learners should confidently talk about their learning journey and have a growing understanding on how to improve their artwork.

The impact of AccessArt's curriculum can be monitored through formative and summative assessment opportunities. Each pathway links to objectives which are used to assess all learner's knowledge, skills and understanding. An assessment grid includes a list of objectives for children which enables teachers to keep records of summative assessments for their class.



After the implementation of AccessArt's Primary Curriculum, learners should leave St Michael's equipped with the confidence, creativity and techniques to form a strong foundation for Upper Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and beyond.