



"Through God we Laugh, Love and Learn".



Art, Craft and Design Policy

January 2026



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Mission Statement

Art, craft and design at St Michael's inspires all learners to be artists. Using AccessArt's scheme of work we provide a rich, broad, balanced, diverse and engaging art curriculum for our learners. AccessArt introduce learners to a diverse range of artists and encourage learners to explore a wide range of materials, techniques and themes. Learners are encouraged to understand many purposes of art and find meaningful ways to engage and succeed.

Aims and Objectives

AccessArt devises their curriculum for weekly art, craft and design sessions. Each half term, objectives correspond with a pathway which focuses on skills and techniques required for children to succeed as artists.

Each pathway focuses on the following disciplines:

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

Through using AccessArt, we aim to engage and inspire learners to find an area of art which is relevant to them, this may be drawing, making, designing, or talking about art.

Role of the Subject Leader

The role of the subject leader is to:

- Support quality teaching, planning and assessment



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- Plan and lead staff meetings
- To inform parents as appropriate
- Provide quality resources - replenish year group and central stocks when needed and upload planning and resources onto the shared area
- Collect evidence of learning across all year groups and abilities
- To keep knowledge and skills up to date
- Support other staff in school including ECTs.

Art, Craft and Design Curriculum Planning

Art, craft and design is taught using AccessArt's scheme of work which takes into account the National Curriculum Programmes of Study (2014).

AccessArt sets out pathways as a structured scheme of work which enables teachers to engage and enhance learner's knowledge, understanding and application of art skills, techniques and disciplines.

Art, craft and design is taught as one lesson per week across all age groups. The subject (depending on pathways) covers between 5% and 10% of weekly curriculum coverage. KS1 and KS2 receive at least 1 hour a week of Art, craft and design. Learners learn with their peers and teachers use the agreed 'school year overview' to plan and deliver lessons and assess children's learning.

Teaching and Learning Style

St Michael's uses a variety of teaching and learning styles in Art, craft and design lessons. This includes whole-class teaching, group discussions, individual, paired and group work.



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Art, craft and design lessons provide learners with opportunities to explore, design, make and create in art to inspire them to become artists.

Art, craft and design at St Michael's builds learner's knowledge and understanding of how art is relevant within their lives. Technical skills are combined with contextual understanding to ensure every child feels empowered to embrace their own creativity.

Drawing, painting and mark-making is recorded in children's sketchbooks which start in Reception (Early Years) and continue through to year 4. Sketchbook may be used in other lessons as resources, for example, observational drawing in science can be recorded in sketchbooks. In addition, classes, including nursery, may use 'floor books' to share and record photographs, outdoor learning and three-dimensional creations to encourage a collaborative, celebratory approach to art, craft and design. This also encourages learners to reflect on their learning journey.

Children have differing abilities in art, craft and design. Suitable learning opportunities and objectives are provided by the class teacher as with any other subject at St Michael's. Often children who are less able in other subjects enjoy the freedom of art lessons where their artwork is seen as equal to those of their peers. There are only explorations to be made. Children may be supported with:

- Adapted tasks
- Additional resources

Resources

At St Michael's, we have a wide range of resources to support the teaching and learning of art, craft and design. Resources are centrally stored and accessed in the art cupboard which is locked



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for adult-only use. Resource books are available in the art cupboard for staff to use to supplement their knowledge, understanding and planning ideas. It is the duty of the subject leader to ensure that all resources are up to date and replenished as needed and that teachers have the resources, they need to ensure high quality teaching and learning.

All classes have a selection of sketching pencils for children to use when drawing in any lesson.

Health and Safety

Teachers always bear in mind the safety of pupils during lessons in accordance with the school's Health and Safety Policy.

Adaptation

Art, craft and design is taught to all children, whatever their ability. This subject supports the provision of a rich, broad and balanced education for all children at St Michael's.

Teachers work towards removing barriers to learning and participation. Art, craft and design lessons may be adapted to allow access through adapted resources or provision, e.g., loop scissors may be provided to support a child to independently cut safely in lessons.

Equal opportunities.

It is vital that all children feel able to participate, contribute and achieve in art, craft and design lessons. This is ensured by:

- Exploring the work of a variety of artists considering gender, ethnicity, or background to show art is for everyone and to celebrate diversity



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- Nurturing creativity through exploration and encouragement
- Celebrating each other's artwork and having a can-do attitude.

Assessment

Assessment for art, craft and design is conducted in a variety of ways:

- Observation
- Class/group/individual discussions
- Sketchbook work
- Designs and creations
- Self-assessment

Teachers make a final assessment of each learner's progress in art, craft and design at the end of each half term using the foundation subject assessment grids.

Monitoring and Review

Monitoring of the standards of learner's work and the quality of teaching in art, craft and design is undertaken by the subject leader. It also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of art, craft and design; informing staff about current developments in the subject and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject. The art, craft and design lead regularly reviews their action plan and discusses this with the Head Teacher, indicating progress and areas for further improvement.

British Values

British Values will be taught within the ethos of the school. This will be sometimes done in a direct and obvious way, sometimes less so. This will be the responsibility of all staff, by their teaching, their expectations of behaviour and by their example.