

Art

'Art is a place for children to learn to trust their ideas, themselves and to explore what is possible.' – Maryann F Kohl

'Children are naturally creative. It is our job to give them the freedom, materials and space to let their creativity blossom to its full potential.' – Jean Van't Hul

INTENT

At St Alphege we pride ourselves in delivering a vibrant and exciting Art curriculum, which brings happiness, colour, joy and wonder to the walls of our school and the heArts of our children.

'Every child is an Artist' is the belief at the heArt of everything we teach. We provide our children access to a broad and exciting Arts curriculum which gives them the necessary opportunity to express themselves through their Artwork.

Our Art curriculum is planned to ensure all children have the opportunity to build on their self-esteem through expressive and explorative child-led activities. We intend to plan and deliver lessons that enable children to take risks and build on their resilience. We believe that you cannot make a mistake in Art and therefore teaching children to have fun whilst developing their Artistic skills.

Our children are given opportunities to experience Art in a wider context outside of the school environment by visiting galleries, pArticipating in exhibitions and working alongside specialist Artist. Celebrating the wealth of the creative community of Whitstable is embedded into the opportunities we provide for our children. Children's awareness of their local area and our connections as a school with the local community is woven into our curriculum.

As a Platinum awarded Arts Mark school, we truly believe that Art is essential for all children to thrive, flourish and help them understand themselves and connect with the world around them.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Art curriculum at St Alphege embraces enquiry, awe and wonder and is underpinned by a robust skills progression which nurtures the development of skills and knowledge across the creative disciplines of colour, drawing, sculpture, textiles, collage and printing. Our curriculum also includes a separate focus term dedicated to design and technology. Each successive year, children explore these disciplines in increasing depth developing a greater understanding of their use and application.

Each creative discipline is complimented by focus Artists which have been carefully chosen to inspire the coverage for each term, promote critical thinking and questioning. They celebrate the wealth of diversity in the Art community whilst gently fostering children's learning of Art history.

Teachers at St Alphege are highly confident in their subject knowledge and deliver Art lessons enthusiastically. Classrooms and teachers are both well-resourced and regular CPD opportunities are given to teachers to expand their personal knowledge. Art is embedded across the curriculum. Where appropriate, teachers regularly plan opportunities for our children to explore core and foundation subjects through Artistic enquiry, applying their skills and knowledge in different context.

Children's creative exploration and progression of skills is documented in their individual sketch books and celebrated on display throughout the school. Children's sketch books travel up through each key stage and evidence skills, knowledge and progression of each Artistic discipline.

Teachers hold high regard to the unique, creative expression of each individual child and therefore use gentle, subjective assessment guided by the Art assessment tracker to capture progress and inform future planning, enabling our curriculum to be inclusive for all and giving every child the opportunity to feel successful in their learning.

EYFS

Through Expressive Arts children explore different creative media and how these can be combined to create different effects. They develop a range of skills and techniques experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function and are given daily access to a range of creative opportunities. Children enjoy expressing themselves in our carefully planned and well-resourced creative areas both indoors and out. Experiencing Art in this way, helps develop their communication and language skills through talking about their creations and sharing these with others to build confidence and raise self-esteem.

IMPACT

The high quality of the teaching of Art at St Alphege will result in a spiritually powerful, creative education for all children.

The impact of our curriculum design will support our children to achieve good progress over time across key stages relative to a child's individual starting point and their progression of skills. Children will therefore leave St Alphege reaching at least

age-related expectations for Art and Design. Our curriculum will also lead children to be enthusiastic, creative learners, evidenced in a variety of ways, including pupil voice, collaborative pieces and in personal sketchbooks.

Achievements are celebrated in classrooms during walking-galleries and throughout school displays, which reflect the children's sense of pride in their Artwork. Our whole school environment clearly reflects the subject's high status in the school and is also demonstrated by creative outcomes across the wider curriculum.

The Art curriculum at St Alphege contributes to our children's personal development in creativity, independence, expression and self-reflection all while fostering a life long love Art.