

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Art and Design Curriculum (EYFS–Year 6)

At St Vincent's, our Art and Design curriculum nurtures creativity, imagination, and self-expression. Through carefully sequenced projects, pupils learn to explore, experiment, and create with confidence. Our curriculum enables children to appreciate and respond to the work of great artists, designers, and craftspeople while developing their own ideas and techniques. Artistic learning encourages curiosity, reflection, and joy in discovery.

Intent

Our intent is to inspire pupils to think creatively and critically, equipping them with the skills to communicate ideas visually and imaginatively. We aim for every child to develop artistic confidence and an appreciation of the visual arts, underpinned by our school principles:

- Exemplary Behaviour – calm, purposeful learning environments where creativity can flourish.
- Knowledge-Rich Curriculum – explicit teaching of artistic concepts, media, and techniques.
- Explicit Teaching – clear modelling of artistic processes, vocabulary, and evaluation.

Implementation

Art and Design is taught through termly projects that progressively develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, and craft. Lessons are sequenced so that children revisit techniques with increasing sophistication. Teachers model processes explicitly, use sketchbooks to encourage reflection and experimentation, and introduce pupils to diverse artists, movements, and cultural influences. Cross-curricular links enrich learning, connecting art to history, science, and faith.

Impact

By the end of Year 6, pupils will be able to use a range of techniques confidently, apply artistic vocabulary accurately, and evaluate their own work and that of others with insight. They will show progression in control, creativity, and composition, and understand how art reflects and shapes history, culture, and identity. Assessment is ongoing through sketchbook evidence, discussion, and observation.

Long-Term Plan (EYFS–Year 6)

Year Group	Autumn Term (Drawing & Colour)	Spring Term (Painting / Sculpture)	Summer Term (Craft / Artist Study)
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EYFS	Exploring Colour and Texture – mixing primary colours, experimenting with materials. Skills: colour recognition, mark-making, sensory exploration.	Shapes and Patterns in Nature – exploring natural forms and textures. Skills: printing, pattern recognition, fine motor control.	My Creative World – creating group art inspired by famous artists (e.g., Alma Thomas, Matisse). Skills: collaboration, composition, reflection.
Year 1	Line and Shape – exploring drawing using pencils and charcoal, inspired by Paul Klee. Skills: line control, observation, describing shapes.	Colour Mixing and Expression – experimenting with primary and secondary colours, inspired by Kandinsky. Skills: brush control, mixing tones, emotional expression.	Textiles and Collage – creating patterned collages inspired by Matisse and local artists. Skills: cutting, arranging, layering materials.
Year 2	Exploring Texture and Pattern – using drawing to capture detail, inspired by William Morris. Skills: observational drawing, pattern design, composition.	Painting Landscapes – exploring brush techniques inspired by Van Gogh. Skills: blending, texture, mood through colour.	3D Art and Sculpture – creating clay forms inspired by Barbara Hepworth. Skills: modelling, joining, refining shapes.
Year 3	Still Life Drawing – studying tone, form, and perspective, inspired by Cezanne. Skills: shading, proportion, composition.	Sculpture in Nature – creating natural forms inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. Skills: assembling, texture creation, environmental awareness.	Cultural Art – exploring patterns from African art. Skills: repeating pattern, use of colour, cultural appreciation.
Year 4	Perspective and Architecture – sketching buildings inspired by Hundertwasser. Skills: perspective, geometry in art, line and form.	Painting with Light and Shadow – studying the effects of light inspired by Monet. Skills: blending tones, capturing movement and atmosphere.	Printmaking – exploring relief and mono printing inspired by Japanese woodcuts. Skills: pattern transfer, layering, accuracy.
Year 5	Portraits and Expression – self-portraits inspired	Abstract Sculpture – exploring form and structure inspired	Pop Art and Modern Design – exploring Warhol and

	by Frida Kahlo. Skills: proportion, emotion through art, symbolism.	by Henry Moore. Skills: manipulating 3D materials, sketching before construction.	Lichtenstein. Skills: bold colour, composition, contemporary interpretation.
Year 6	Drawing from Observation – detailed sketching inspired by Leonardo da Vinci. Skills: proportion, tone, technical accuracy.	Painting People and Places – inspired by Alma Thomas and Jacob Lawrence. Skills: composition, colour contrast, narrative in art.	Mixed Media and Legacy – creating personal portfolios inspired by Yayoi Kusama. Skills: experimentation, reflection, personal style.

Progression of Knowledge and Skills

From EYFS to Year 6, pupils develop technical skill, creativity, and critical understanding. They begin by exploring materials and colour, then learn to draw with accuracy, paint expressively, and sculpt confidently. By Upper Key Stage 2, they combine media, express meaning through composition, and evaluate their work thoughtfully, demonstrating growing independence and imagination.

Disciplinary Skills

Skill Area	Description
Drawing	Developing control and precision with line, shape, and tone to represent observations and ideas.
Painting	Exploring colour, brushwork, texture, and technique to communicate mood and effect.
Sculpture	Building form and structure using materials such as clay, wire, or natural objects.
Printmaking	Creating designs through relief, stencil, or mono printing, building accuracy and pattern awareness.
Craft and Design	Applying creative techniques to textiles, collage, or digital art with purpose and aesthetic awareness.
Evaluation	Reflecting on artistic choices, comparing artists' techniques, and improving through feedback.