

Subject statement Art and Design

Subject:	Art and Design
Aims:	At Duncombe Primary School, we aim to create an arts-rich environment so that our children, staff and the community can enjoy and achieve in the arts. We see the arts as valuable in their own right, but also as a means to support and enhance learning in other subjects. We aim for quality and range in our arts provision and the teaching staff and children are inspired and guided by our experienced and passionate artist in residence, Lorraine. We are also very proud of our successful and unique work with parents (we provide two weekly parent art classes), the wider community (through events such as Challenge Day), local schools (by welcoming their staff to Duncombe for a weekly arts workshop) and outside partners (such as the October Gallery).
Progression ensuring skills and knowledge:	<p>Art lessons are carefully planned to ensure that children have the opportunity to develop a variety of skills. There is a broad coverage of techniques, including experience of colour, texture, form and pattern. Each year, the children will have the opportunity to complete a project based on painting, printing and clay. Children will experience Design and Technology through textiles, food and construction projects. The textiles and construction projects will involve the children developing, planning and communicating ideas, working with tools, equipment, materials and components to make quality products and evaluating processes and products. Children will learn about healthy eating and nutrition as well as experiencing cooking food. They will have the opportunity to complete extended projects during termly 'Challenge Days.' Whole school projects, for example a week focusing on identity and self-portraits, and Big Draw give children the opportunity to develop specific skills. Our partnership with the October Gallery has developed children's understanding of art and drawing skills through workshops and visits to the gallery.</p> <p>The arts are used to enhance displays and working walls demonstrate evidence of progression. Sketch books are used to track children's progress and remain with the child throughout their time in Years 1 to 6. At the end of Year 2, 4 and 6 children self-assess development of holistic qualities used during the creative process, such as taking risks, being independent and learning from mistakes. The art website provides a space for children who are particularly interested in art to pursue their passion. Regular creative challenges encourage engagement in the arts at home and allow children's participation to be praised. Feedback helps children to improve specific skills. In Year 6, children can complete the Bronze Arts Award. Over the year, they work with our artist in residence to interview artists, visit galleries and learn and teach art skills. The end-of-year assessment involves the children displaying their portfolio of work in an exhibition and having an interview.</p>
Cultural Capital:	<p>At Duncombe, we make full use of London as a resource and we ensure that our children and their families are able to access and enjoy the many cultural opportunities in the city. Regular trips to Kenwood House and The October Gallery, for example, give the children and their parents' new experiences. Parents are included in many activities, such as The Big Draw and workshops at the Estorick Gallery as well as in weekly parent pottery, recycled art and textile classes. This is with the aim of ensuring that not only our children, but their families too, have access to creative expression.</p> <p>We use our arts provision to engage with a range of cultures. Children will have the opportunity to meet with and learn from artists, through our relationship with The October Gallery. We have long-term relationships with artists, including the school's artist in residence, Lorraine.</p>
Learning Experiences:	We provide opportunities for our children to work with artists, visit galleries and participate in large-scale collaborative art, such as during our annual 'Challenge Day', which is carried out with our educational business partners. Over the course of the day, children work with thirty volunteers and create large-scale installations.
Digital Discovery links:	Our art website provides links to a wealth of creative resources on the internet to encourage the children to develop their ICT capabilities and each year the children experience a digital art project.
Environmental Issues links:	We strive to use the arts to support our children's understanding of environmental issues. Our art curriculum is directly linked with our topic curriculum, and will cover a sustainability topic each year. This ensures that art links with environmental issues

	throughout the school. For example, children create placards for the schools' climate march in Year 4 and ocean collages in Year 1.
Characteristics of Effective Learning:	Engagement: Trips and workshops give children the opportunity to explore art in a different way and learn from experts. Whole school events and collaborative projects such as The Big Draw, engage and excite the whole school, especially when the children exhibit their work in assemblies and community exhibitions.
	Motivation: Children's motivation is sustained through the study of various exciting, contemporary artists and the broad variety of media experienced in their art lessons. The children are motivated by being able to see their progress in sketch books.
	Thinking: Termly challenge days give children the opportunity to develop their skills of designing, improving and evaluating through engagement in extended projects. Work from previous years is revisited and discussed to allow children to access prior knowledge. Children will reflect on their learning and can discuss what they have learned.
Word power and communication:	We believe that it is essential to give our children the tools they need to talk about art, so they can explain what they like about it but also understand how to describe the techniques that they want to use in their own work. Year group specific word lists are added to children's sketch books at the start of each year and they are encouraged to refer to them regularly to improve their ability to know and explain art. We aim to develop opportunities, such as peer assessment, for collaboration and discussion during art lessons, so these words can be used in context. Children have many opportunities to give their opinions about the arts.
Making a positive contribution:	We recognise our children's achievements in arts through celebration events such as exhibitions and assemblies to which parents are also invited. Our children study artists who are meaningful and relevant.
Resources used:	Islington Education Library service resources including artefacts and books. Recycled resources from the scrap store.