Art Curriculum Intent and Implementation

Intent

At Apley Wood Primary School our aim is to ensure that our Art curriculum provides a range of opportunities and experiences to develop our children as artists, whilst making art fun, engaging and accessible to all. We aim to develop a love of art by offering a creative, exciting and challenging curriculum designed to 'feed the mind and free the imagination' for all children. We provide children with opportunities to become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art techniques. We encourage children to produce creative work which explores, records and reflects on ideas and experiences in their own and others' lives, whilst providing opportunities to evaluate and analyse their own, and others', creative works. Throughout our curriculum, we aim to promote an understanding of the world around us, and the relevance of art in our modern culture, through studying a range of artists, craft makers and designers. We aim to prepare children with the knowledge and skills needed for later life.

Our curriculum is designed to provide our children with the knowledge appropriate to their year group, and also the skills to enable them to be successful across the whole subject. The expectation is that the majority of pupils will move through each year group following the school's progression document. However, decisions about when to progress should always be based on the security of children's understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Our Art curriculum focuses on giving children opportunities to overlearn by focusing on vocabulary, knowledge and different styles of art throughout the year and the key stages.

Implementation

Our curriculum teaches the key substantive knowledge and disciplinary knowledge children need through exciting and engaging learning opportunities. At Apley, each year group carries out an Art topic every term, providing a range of opportunities for painting, drawing, sculpture and other aspects of art across the school year. Each topic is taught in a progressive sequence of lessons, enabling children to develop and refine their knowledge and skills in each area. Within each Art unit, children learn about a notable artist, craftsperson or designer linked to their topic. Throughout their time at Apley, children will learn about a range of traditional, modern and contemporary artists and styles of art.

All children are provided with exciting and engaging learning opportunities, both in school and out, including lessons, theme days and weeks, extra-curricular activities and visits. Teachers give children the opportunity within lessons to work on their own and to collaborate with others, on projects in two and three dimensions and on different scales. Children also have the opportunity to use a wide range of materials and resources, including ICT.

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Our Art progression document ensure the different types of knowledge and skills are sequential, building on the previous year's learning. Our Art assessment document clearly identifies the key learning required by the end of each unit of work. In addition to this, we identify and assess the key vocabulary that our pupils should know and understand for each unit of work. Through our teaching, we ensure that children know and remember more by using knowledge organisers, revisiting prior learning and making links between subjects and knowledge whenever possible.

Impact

The Art subject leaders regularly measure the impact of our Art curriculum through the monitoring of teaching and learning, assessment and on-going self-review. The subject leaders talk to children to ascertain their views and ensure they can articulate their learning. They also undertake learning walks, look at books and review curriculum progression.

During art lessons, formative assessment takes place and feedback is given to children each lesson through written or verbal feedback. We will also encourage children to reflect on their own learning through self-assessments. Teachers assess children's vocabulary understanding at the start and end of each topic and assess the learning taking place in Art lessons by completing assessment documents at the end of each topic. The outcomes of the assessments inform teachers' planning to ensure that they are meeting the needs of each child which allows them to progress in their art knowledge.

We aim for the impact to be that our children will be academically prepared for the next phase of their education, are motivated to succeed and achieve in Art, and are equipped with all the personal skills to do this.