



Art and Design at Beechwood Primary School

As a school we are passionate about developing the whole child. Art and culture are, in our opinion, pivotal to this. Embracing a creative curriculum gives all children a sense of excitement and purpose for their learning. For children who have a natural flair for the Arts it gives them a platform to showcase their learning and the opportunity to develop skills for their future. Art is crucial for all children, it helps to develop their confidence and also build up their team work and cooperative skills. For some of our children Art is the one area that they excel in, developing and strengthening this area gives them the confidence in other subjects that do not come as easily to them.

From EYFS, up to Year 6, our children are taught the essential knowledge and skills taken from the Early Years Framework 2021 and the National Curriculum 2014. Our well-planned journey through the art curriculum helps our pupils to build upon their prior learning and apply past knowledge to new situations; we are passionate about ensuring that our children's learning transfers to their long-term memory. To ensure that this happens we constantly revisit concepts and themes both within year groups and subjects and across year groups and different subjects where applicable. As a school we use Kapow as our carefully selected scheme of work for art however, we further enhance this where possible with additional opportunities for children to further develop their artistic abilities including our HPAN exhibition and whole school theme weeks.

As soon as children come to our school, they are encouraged to be creative. Lessons are taught to encourage the children to think like an artist, to develop curiosity about pictures and paintings, whilst also inspiring our children to present what they have learnt in a range of different styles.

Art is enjoyed and valued by everyone throughout the school community. Pupils are always keen to learn new skills and work hard to develop those shown to them. Teachers have high expectations and quality evidence can be presented in a variety of ways. All children use technical vocabulary accurately and pupils are expected to know, apply and understand a range of skills and processes. Children will become more confident in analysing work and giving their opinion on their own and other works of art. Children show their resilience and perseverance by continually evaluating and improving their work. Displays around the school reflect the children's sense of pride in their artwork and pupils use sketchbooks to show their progression of skills, individual inspiration and personal reflection.

HPAN

In June 2016, Beechwood established Halton Primary Arts Network, HPAN was formed to manage the provision and development of the Arts across Halton as well as giving the children a platform to showcase their talents. Each academic year, schools work together to create an exhibition and performances linked to a set theme. The school participates in the Halton Primary Arts Network Exhibition each year. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase the pupils' work in the local community.