



National Curriculum Aims

The 2014 National Curriculum for Art and Design aims to ensure that all pupils:

- produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
- evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design
- know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

Intent

At HPS, we offer a structure and sequence of lessons to help teachers ensure they have covered the skills required to meet the aims of the national curriculum. We ensure all pupils produce creative, imaginative work. Children have the opportunity to explore their ideas and record their experiences, as well as exploring the work of others and evaluate different creative ideas. Children will become confident and proficient in a variety of techniques including drawing, painting, sculpting, as well as other selected craft skills, e.g., collage, printing, weaving and patterns. Children will also develop their knowledge of relevant famous artists, designers and craft makers linked to faith, history and culture. We place a strong emphasis on creativity, imagination, and faith, ensuring children learn from a diverse range of global artists, with a particular focus on Islamic and cultural artists who celebrate and reflect our community. Our intent is that children recognise that in art there are no “wrong” answers—only possibilities—while learning to see and reflect the beauty of God’s creation in all its forms.

Implementation

Teacher and adults lead art lessons with confidence understanding the progression of skills and knowledge and that outcomes have been met. Each key stage focuses on different themes to ensure continued interest in the subject as well as acquiring new knowledge. The children develop their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design. Children also understand how art and design both reflect our faith, and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

Our curriculum is delivered through the Early Years Framework and the National Curriculum, supported by the Kapow scheme, while maintaining our own bespoke provision. Lessons intentionally introduce children to a wide range of media—including painting, drawing, sculpture, printing, collage, textiles and digital art—each linked to high-quality artists from around the world, especially those connected to our Islamic and cultural heritage. Local artists also support and inspire learning, shaping our school environment from the reception area to the playground and prayer room. A distinctive feature of our implementation is the integration of Forest School learning, where children experiment and create using natural materials, strengthening their connection to nature and deepening their appreciation of God’s creation.

Impact

Art and design learning is loved by teachers and pupils across school. Teachers have higher expectations and more 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 the matters, skills and processes specified. Children improve their enquiry skills and inquisitiveness about the world around them, and their impact through art and design on the world. Children will become more confident in analysing their work and giving their opinion on their own and other works of art. Children show competences in improving their resilience and perseverance by continually evaluating and improving their work. All children in school can speak confidently about their art and design work and their skills. As a result of our enriched curriculum, children develop strong critical thinking skills, cultural awareness, and confidence in expressing their identity through art. Their achievements are celebrated through exhibitions, curriculum evenings, and displays across the school, cultivating pride and a lifelong love of art.

Knowledge and Skills

In **Early Years**, children safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function (Expressive Arts and Design). In **Key Stage 1**, learn how to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products; use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination; develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space and about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers. In **Key Stage 2**, children develop their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design; record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas; improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay] and learn about great artists, architects and designers in history. Across all stages, children encounter artists and designers from a diverse range of cultural and faith backgrounds, with purposeful inclusion of Islamic and community-relevant artists to strengthen cultural identity and representation.

Creativity

At HPS, the curriculum for Art and Design, is taking into consideration the work of artists and current events or themes within the school calendar and community. Links are also made, where appropriate, with other curriculum areas to ensure that learning is meaningful and relevant. As the Art and Design curriculum is focused on the creative process, work is mainly in sketchbooks. Children also have the opportunity to create ‘finished’ pieces of work individually and collaboratively. This is often displayed and celebrated around the school. Creativity is nurtured through open-ended exploration, experimentation, and freedom of personal expression, inspired by both nature and culturally significant artistic traditions.

Assessment

At HPS, verbal feedback is given during lessons to support learning. Children are questioned carefully to enable them to evaluate their learning and make informed choices. Individuality and creativity are celebrated. At the end of each unit, the key knowledge, understanding and skills are assessed by the class teacher. Teachers also use the Kapow scheme’s videos which demonstrate explicit art and design skills and techniques to support teaching and learning. Assessments are through observation of pupils and discussions, as well as the assessment of sketchbooks’ work. Reflection is embedded throughout the curriculum, with children encouraged to evaluate their own work, recognise beauty in their creations, and articulate their artistic choices with confidence.