Art and Design at Monken Hadley

Curriculum Intent

At Monken Hadley Primary School, we value Art and Design as an important part of the children's entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Following the National Curriculum for Art and Design, we aim to ensure that all pupils will:

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

We believe that Art and Design should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to explore, experiment, invent and create their own unique drawings, paintings, sculptures and crafts. As pupils progress, we think children should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. We want all children to have a natural sense of wonder and curiosity when studying a wide variety of artwork. We endeavour to provide rich and varied learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom as we want our children to see the joy and satisfaction in the process of exploring and making art in a variety of environments.

Curriculum Implementation

Our Art and Design lessons are taught through a thematic approach using our Curiosity Curriculum. Our art and design curriculum ensures a rich and fulfilling learning experience with meaningful cross-curricular links. It is up to our teacher's discretion, experience and judgement to plan effective sequences of lessons for their children using guided practice and skilfully modelled examples. We are flexible to meet the children's needs and tailor their experience of art based on their interests, skills, and what areas they need to develop further. Planning and learning is closely monitored and guided, making adaptations to improve teaching and learning outcomes.

As well as this, art is promoted throughout our school through a variety of platforms. We hold after school art clubs, art/photography competitions, explore art in the natural environment through 'Forest School workshops', visit art galleries, work on projects with the local community and take pride in displaying the children's artwork across the school.

Curriculum Impact

At Monken Hadley the essence of our curriculum is curiosity and our aim is for all children to have a natural sense of wonder and questioning when studying a wide variety of artwork in order to leave Monken Hadley with a love of art. We want all children to be equipped with the skills of different media and feel empowered to produce pieces of art they are proud of.

Art is monitored throughout all year groups using a variety of strategies such as learning walks and professional dialogue with teachers, pupil interviews, display and sketch book monitoring. This allows subject leaders to ensure our artists have the opportunity to develop their skills.

When our children leave Monken Hadley, we want them to be critical thinkers, knowing when and how to improve their work or knowing when to stop and to be satisfied with what they have achieved.