



# Curriculum Intent for Art and Design

- a curriculum that is ambitious for all pupils;
- a curriculum that is coherently planned and sequenced;
- a curriculum that is successfully adapted, designed and developed for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities;
- a curriculum that is broad and balanced for all pupils.

## What does Art and Design look like at West Ashtead?

Art and Design is taught by enthusiastic, creative staff who realise the importance, potential and power of the subject.

In Early Years children explore a wide range of materials, media, tools and techniques, sharing thoughts, ideas and feelings. They experiment with colour, form and texture, and begin to think about the purpose of what they are creating. They discover the properties of the materials which they are using and begin to modify and manipulate them.

In KS1 the children undertake various practical, creative and discursive activities designed to develop their ability to express themselves and to further their technical skills in a variety of key processes such as drawing and mark making, colour mixing and painting, forming, assembling/constructing and modelling, printing and pattern making, cutting, tearing, sticking and collaging. They talk about and evaluate the work of local, national and international artists, makers and designers, as well as a range of artistic movements from different cultural and historical contexts.

In KS2, technical skills are refined and honed. Experience and exploration of cultures, contexts and times (historical and contemporary) is developed, and an awareness of the broad diversity and potential of creative practices available to the children is encouraged.

By the time children leave West Ashtead, they should be confident in their own artistic abilities, both technical and expressive. They should be able to see their own potential and view themselves as artists who can make a valuable contribution to society.

## What do our children say about Art and Design?

**"I like it because anything can be art: from a dot, to a line, to a whole scene"**

**"Sometimes, when it doesn't go how you wanted it to, it comes into something else"**

**"I like it best when it has a link to our Topic work, like Roman shield designs and Greek Masks"**

### Why is Art and Design important?

Art and Design inspires and deepens children's personal expression, cultural understanding, and encourages creative and practical responses, reactions and solutions to the world around them. It promotes imaginative risk taking and is a great leveller: it can engage, inspire and challenge pupils of all backgrounds and abilities.

Art and Design equips children with technical and conceptual skills. Children are able to create their own works of art, craft and design through the exploration and application of practical techniques and the development of their own ideas and the study of the ideas of others. They expand their ability to think critically, creatively and they begin to understand the importance of having an open, enquiring mind.

Art and Design develops resilience, empathy and confidence; it helps children to realise their place in the world – locally, nationally and globally, and how they can influence and change this in a positive, purposeful and confident manner. It embraces the act of 'making a mistake' and turns it into a positive, forward-looking learning experience.

### How do we enrich our children's understanding of Art and Design?

Children are exposed to a wide range of art practices, artists and art movements throughout their time at West Ashtead. However, it is vital that they experience Art and Design in contexts other than just the classroom. The curriculum is broadened and deepened via the children's experience of Art and Design in the world beyond West Ashtead. This is achieved through gallery and museum visits, practical workshops, visiting artists and practitioners, extra-curricular clubs, competitions and special events such as whole school exhibitions.