



**Godmanchester  
Bridge Academy**

## Art and Design Policy - January 2020

Together We Inspire Enjoy Achieve

## Introduction

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy we teach art and design as part of a broad creative curriculum. We aspire to equip our children with the ability to become confident, creative and imaginative artists. Art and design stimulates creativity and imagination, providing visual, tactile and sensory experiences as a unique way of understanding and responding to the world.

We aim to provide every child with the opportunity to experience and enjoy art and design through a range of different media. We strive to challenge the abilities and aptitudes of pupils, encouraging them to express their own ideas through means of creativity.

*“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time”.*

By Thomas Merton.

## Aims

The Art Curriculum aims to:

- Enable children to become visually literate, developing their understanding of art as a form of visual and tactile communication.
- Develop skills, both creative and technical so that children can develop their ideas and produce artefacts.
- Develop imaginative and original thought and encourage experimentation.
- Nurture and develop children's enthusiasm and enjoyment towards art and design.
- Nurture and develop the child's capacity to learn about and observe the world in which they live, both locally and globally.
- Develop the children's ability to express and communicate ideas, opinions and feelings about their own work and that of others.
- Encourage the children to value the contributions made by artists and designers, responding thoughtfully, critically and imaginatively to different ideas, images and objects from other cultures as well as our own.

## Thematic Approach

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy, our curriculum design gives each year group the opportunity to cover a broad range of themes and subjects. Themes last approximately one

term depending on the amount of content and the children's interests. In some cases, projects may be taught for a shorter period, for example during a science or art week.

Our Art curriculum is broad, balanced and meets the requirements of the national curriculum. It has a project-based, thematic approach and provides children with a range of rich and memorable learning experiences. Some projects have an Art focus, and others will have less of an artistic emphasis.

## **Expectations**

At Godmanchester, children will develop their knowledge, skills and understanding through a variety of activities set out following the National Primary Curriculum. Each year group will cover progressively more complex aspects of drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and textiles. They will also become familiar with the work of famous artists, architects and designers including art from other non-European cultures.

Children will build upon their existing knowledge to ensure continuity and progression, and this will be evident in the planning for each year.

The development of skills will be evident in the sketchbooks of children as they move through the school. Children will be encouraged to spend time looking back through their art work to develop their own sense of progression.

## **Resources**

Basic art resources are kept in the classrooms for all year groups. More specialised resources are stored centrally.

## **Health and Safety**

At all times, children will be taught how to care for and handle equipment and media safely and with respect.

When working with tools, equipment and materials, pupils will be taught:

- To recognise hazards, assess risks and take steps to control the risks to themselves and others.
- To use information to assess the immediate and cumulative risks.
- To manage their environment to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others.
- To explain the steps they take to control risk.

Staff should be aware of the County guidance on health and safety.

## **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy we aim to provide effective learning opportunities for all pupils in this curriculum area. Every child should have the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible, whilst acknowledging pupils' individual learning needs.

The art curriculum is available to all children regardless of gender, cultural background, educational need, religion etc. A wide variety of art is used from different cultural traditions and backgrounds and religious traditions. These are used to support and give examples of different artistic styles and techniques and also to highlight the importance of art in various aspects of life.

Children with specific educational or additional needs will have the same access to art and design, although it may be necessary to differentiate the art curriculum to suit their needs. It is our belief that these children experience success and satisfaction through art. As art is a means of communication that is not bound by written and spoken language, it enables pupils with educational needs of all kinds to develop a capacity for self-expression.

## **School and Community links**

Our school has close links with our community and should be alert to opportunities to develop links within the locality. We seek to encourage people with special talents to work within the school.

## **Assessment and Recording**

The Art Coordinator will set out a yearly overview of the areas to be covered in art and design by each year group and work with classroom teachers to develop more detailed plans for these units of work. The art and design curriculum will be monitored through lesson observations, annual reviews of sketchbooks and discussions with both staff and pupils. To showcase the children's work a portfolio of art is collected annually. These examples will illustrate achievement and progression throughout the school and should be used comparatively by staff when making judgements and writing reports, alongside progression documents to be supplied by the Art Coordinator.

## Subject Development

The Art Coordinator is responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of Art by informing them of current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school. The coordinator is also responsible for evaluating strengths and weaknesses in the subject and identifying areas for improvement and development.

## Policy Review

The Art and Design policy will be reviewed by the co-ordinator and the senior management team and up-dated where necessary.

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### Policy Details

### Date

### Name

Policy approved by Senior Management:

Feb 2020

Claire Wood

Policy approved by Senior Governor

Feb2020

Caroline Crowther-Light

Date of next review: Feb 2023

## Policy Section: Section 1A – Curriculum Policies (Pupils)

Policy reference: GBA 1A/03 AT