Art and Design Curriculum Statement

At the Moorsway Federation, being an Artist means our children develop passion, perseverance and creativity: exploring how artists think, make and design through a variety of cultures and time. We want them to be artists who flourish and are constantly observing, exploring, questioning and learning about their craft and who they are.

We believe that the arts are fundamental in a child's development, allowing the child to express themselves creatively, building confidence, giving them skills and knowledge. Within the federation, art and design is an important part of a child's education and has a significant and valuable role in the taught curriculum.

Intent

Our art curriculum is designed with the aim of developing the child's ability to work in a range of materials, scale and media to understand their potential and use art as a medium to give expression to their world. As a federation, we strive to develop children's critical abilities and understanding of their own and others' cultural heritages through studying a diverse range of artists, craftspeople, architects and designers, past and present.

The National Curriculum for art and design aims to ensure that all children:

- 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.

Implementation

Through a clear framework each child will have the opportunity to develop their artistic knowledge and skills. Understanding of the visual elements of art and design (line, tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape, 3D form) will be developed by providing a curriculum which will enable children to reach their full potential.

We teach a skills-based art curriculum, which gives opportunities for children to express their creative imagination and use artwork to record ideas, observations and experiences. Through delivering a spiral curriculum, children are given the opportunity to practise and develop mastery in the key processes of art: drawing, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture (including ceramics as the Federation regularly uses their kiln facilities).

Sketchbooks are used effectively across KS1 and KS2 here at Moorsway Federation and are invaluable when auditing current provision and can provide a record of the children's learning and progress of art in school. Although this is not an expectation for KS1, all children have somewhere to express their ideas and develop techniques learnt. Children will take their sketchbooks with them at the end of the year to their new class where they will continue to expand on techniques and their appreciation of artists' work. Upon entry into the school, children's art can be seen on display, giving them ownership of their educational environment and celebrating their art achievements. Every year we have an Arts Week of timetabled creative activities which culminates in an exhibition that is open to families and the local community and children have the opportunity to show and speak about their work. Other events include workshops and visits, such as The Box, galleries at Plymouth College of Art and Design and Plymouth University and Delamore Arts in Cornwood, visiting visual art specialists and opportunities to show their creative talents in school events and festivals.

Impact

Art contributes to children's personal development in creativity, independence, judgement and self-reflection. It encourages children to develop a sense of ownership over their work and reflect on their experiences through evaluating their progress and development.

Children show willingness to participate in a range of artistic opportunities and respond well to this. We ensure that art is included across each year group within every topic of learning, with a level of progression that supports and challenges our children so that they develop lively, creative, enquiring minds. We aim to nurture our children's creativity, skills and confidence that will prepare them for successful, expressive and artistic lives in the ever changing world that we live in.

Art and Design in the Early Years:

From an early age, children are encouraged to represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through art. They will do this by safely using and exploring a range of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Encouraging attitudes of curiosity and questioning as well as skills and techniques is important when supporting the progression of the children's creativity and confidence in their ideas and skills.