



# Art Curriculum Intent statement

*“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.”*

*Pablo Picasso*

## What is the intention of our Art curriculum?

### What are our aims?

At Whybridge Junior School, we follow the National Curriculum in England: Art and design programmes of study. We aim to develop our pupils into global citizens with an understanding of the world around them, whilst exposing the children to a wide range of art through a variety of means. Through practical, hands on experience, we give the children the opportunity to channel their creativity, using their knowledge of the world’s greatest artists as a source of inspiration. At Whybridge we strive to equip pupils with the necessary skill set to become reflective learners and thus encourage them to conduct research before creating a piece of work, then subsequently evaluate their own creations.

### What is our rationale?

Our rationale for teaching art at Whybridge Junior School is that art embodies some of the highest forms of human creativity. We believe that art should engage, inspire and challenge pupils. Through the teaching of art, we can equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art. In hand with our broad curriculum at Whybridge, we think that art allows pupils to think critically and develop an understanding of how art both reflects and shapes our history, contributing to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation. We believe that a broad and balanced art education is the entitlement of all children, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, class or ability. The sequence of units are taught in the order chosen to allow the best progression possible for children, giving them the ability to build up their own skill set and continually add to their own portfolio.

### What are the attitudes we want to foster?

- To develop creative thinkers with positive attitudes to art that will start from the time they join the school and will follow into secondary education and beyond.
- To build upon children’s creativity, facilitating them with a skill set that they build upon year by year.
- To make a positive contribution to the school by creating a friendly school environment through the displays of their own work around the school.
- To be able to express themselves and regulate their emotional health and wellbeing through their artwork.
- To develop the children in to reflective learners, with the ability to critique and improve their own work.

## How will we implement our Art curriculum?

At Whybridge Junior School, a range of art, craft and design techniques are embedded in each art unit that the children study and these techniques are revisited and developed throughout their time at school. The art units take inspiration both from the great artists the children are studying and other learning themes which the children are studying across the curriculum. For example, in Year 3, when the children are studying Ancient Egypt as their History unit, they will look at the pyramids as part of their work on drawing and 3D art. Equally, when studying the Stone Age, they will learn how pointillism art began in the Neolithic times, before George Seurat. This model allows pupils to build

upon their prior skills set and deepens their understanding, due to the links in learning. In addition, in line with our school's intent, the children are exposed to a range of artist vocabulary. Art is taught either for 1 hour weekly, or 2 hours fortnightly, following the KS2 National Curriculum. Evidence of the children's artwork can be seen both in their sketch books and proudly on display throughout the school, adding to the school's welcoming environment. Art lessons are a balanced mix of drawing, painting, sculpture and other art techniques using a range of materials through practical lessons that allow the children to show progression in their skills basis as well as an understanding of great artists through the years.

During lower key stage 2, pupils develop their understanding of some of the earliest great artists. They explore these artists and use them as a source of inspirations for their own pieces of work, using a range of skills. During upper key stage 2, pupils develop their understanding of some contemporary great artists. They explore these artists and use them as a source of inspirations for their own pieces of work, building and extending the artistic skills that they have worked with in lower school.

In addition to their work at school, the children are given various enrichment opportunities through extracurricular activities, something we believe is important if pupils are to develop in to creative thinkers with an exposure to the world of art around them. For example, Year 3 had the opportunity to take part in the "Tate Project", a city wide project bringing together different groups of children. In Year 4, pupils visit an art gallery, giving them opportunity to look at the work of great artists and to exercise their own critique. In upper school, pupils have the chance to visit local secondary schools and use their art facilities to develop mastery in addition to artistic practices. We also encourage the use of our many outdoor areas around the school to serve as a source of inspiration, such as our natural area. At Whybridge, art is used as a means of expression and links to our ethos, promoting a positive mental well-being by providing the children with the means to express themselves.

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 3	Famous Buildings: Drawing and 3D art	Seurat and Pointillism: Colour Theory and Painting	Journeys: Drawing and Painting/ Paul Klee
Year 4	At the Pantomime: Drawing/ Textiles and collage	Warhol and Pop Art: Photography and Painting	Can we change places? Sculpture and Environmental art
Year 5	Leonardo De Vinci: Drawing - Perspective and Composition	People in Action: 3D Art and Printing	Cityscapes: Photography, Patterns and Reflections
Year 6	Art Illusions: Drawing - Optical and Perspective	Monet and the Impressionists: Painting - Landscapes	Famous Fashions: Photography, Drawing and 3D work

### **How will we judge the impact of our Art curriculum?**

Our Art Curriculum is designed with subject plans that contain clearly defined and ambitious aims for pupils with a clear map of progression. Assessment of art aims to evaluate progress and attainment in the mastery of art techniques and the children's understanding of great artists.

Our sketch books are used as working documents that allow the children to experiment with their ideas, whilst evidencing their creativity and progression of techniques. Their work displayed throughout school allows the children to feel a sense of pride and makes evidence the progression of art throughout the school, with their peers work as a source of inspiration for younger pupils. We aim for our pupils to be secondary school ready when leaving Whybridge Junior School with a positive attitude towards art, manifesting in reflective, creative learners.