

Art and design in the National Curriculum in England

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Giving children opportunities to be imaginative, explore different materials. Developing their ideas is an important part of the Early Years Foundation Stage, mainly within the 'expressive art and design' area of learning. Children are encouraged to practise their handling, moving and control skills (for example, by painting or using clay). Materials should be accessible for children to develop and explore their ideas and to be imaginative.

Key stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

The content of art and design teaching and learning is set out in the 2014 National Curriculum for primary schools in England. Pupils should be given opportunities to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products through drawing, painting and sculpture. They explore different techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

Another important aspect of the art and design curriculum is learning about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

Key stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)

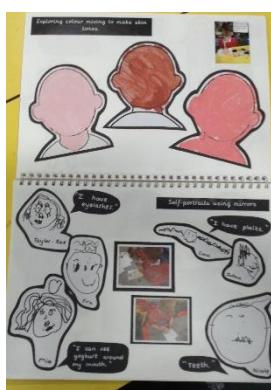
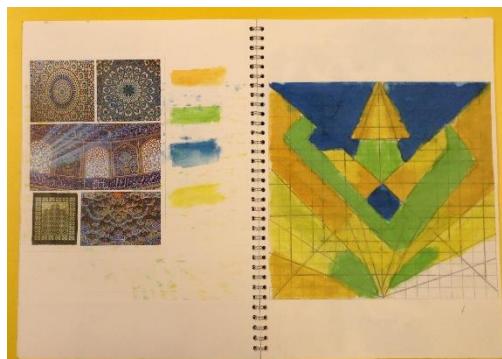
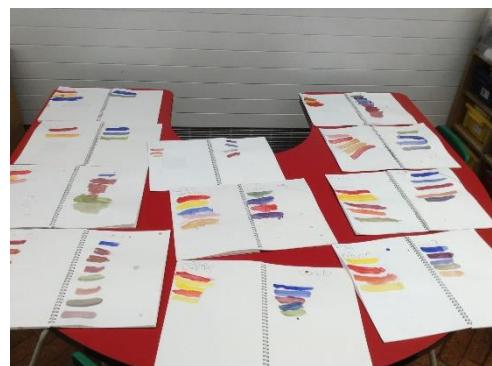
The content of the art and design curriculum in Key Stage 2 builds on what children have learnt in Key Stage 1. Children should develop and improve their skills in drawing, painting and sculpture using a range of different materials. They are expected to create sketch books to record their learning and to use them to review and revisit ideas. They continue to learn about great artists, architects and designers in history.

Art and wider opportunities at Heath Primary School

Through our long term plans we make sure that all National Curriculum objectives are taught to a high standard and children experience a wide range of art types and have many creative experiences. We also have an annual Arts Week where children participate in a variety of Arts based workshops based on a different theme each year. To showcase the Art that the children create at Heath Primary School we organise an annual art exhibition (unfortunately postponed during the pandemic). The exhibition is well attended by pupils, families and staff and brings our school community together to celebrate the wonderful variety of creative work created by our children.

Examples of Art across school

Here are just a few examples of the Art Journeys children have been on over the last year.



We also strive to provide our children with opportunities outside of Art lessons to experience and become involved in activities focussed around the Arts. This includes our annual Arts week, Art exhibition (unfortunately postponed over the last few years) extra-curricular clubs and opportunities for small groups to attend workshops.

Arts week is an opportunity for all children across our school to celebrate different artists and arts types.

Arts Week 2021 – ‘Hope’

Focussed on the work of Charlie Mackesy and his book ‘The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse’. The children worked within their own classrooms due to covid restrictions but this did not dampen the impact of Arts week. All children participated in workshops run by their teachers, these included photography, illustration using ink and watercolour, drama, music and kite making. All of our Year 5 and 6 children had the opportunity to complete the Arts Award Discover certificate during this week, kindly funded by The Mighty Creatives, a community Art group.



Arts week 2020 – ‘The World Around Us’

Focussed on our planet and global issues such as recycling and cleaning up our oceans for the creatures that live in them. Children from Reception to Year 6 worked in mixed year groups to learn about, create and develop a range of skills. The workshops included lantern making, dance, poetry, music and upcycling waste to create an art piece.



Arts Award

Arts Award inspires young people to grow their arts and leadership talents: it's creative, valuable and accessible. Arts Award can be achieved at five levels, four qualifications and an introductory award.

Over the last two years we have introduced Arts Award in several different ways at the introductory level, the Discover Award. During the first lockdown two of our Key Worker Bubbles completed the Arts Award through the 'Let's Create' package. A number of teachers have also run Arts Award clubs and all of Upper Key Stage 2 children had the opportunity to complete the Discover Arts Award during our Arts Week 2021.

Arts Award has engaged our pupils and given them the opportunity to explore a range of art disciplines, artists and mediums. Our pupils have had time to explore art types that interest them and create individual pieces of Art work that reflect their own ideas. We will continue to offer Arts Award opportunities across school.

Extra-curricular activities

We have offered several extra-curricular activities at Heath Primary School. Including an Arts Award club run on several occasions by different members of staff, and also a lantern making workshop in preparation for the Bolsover Lantern Parade.

Arts Award club has offered children to earn their Discover Award certificate and create individual pieces of artwork inspired by their chosen artist and research. These clubs have been well attended and participants have been fully engaged with the activities.

We ran our first lantern club in 2019 which both children and their parents attended to make lanterns together. It was a great opportunity for us all to develop our team working skills whilst being creative. We created some wonderful lanterns and had a great time parading them in Bolsover. Unfortunately, in 2020 the Lantern Parade was cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

During the Autumn term of 2021 we offered a lantern club to children from Reception to Year 6 and had a great uptake (45 children). Members of staff from across school kindly helped to run the club so that all those interested could participate. Each child made an individual lantern and had to build their own willow frame, stretch water resistant tissue paper across their frame and decorate their lantern. It was lovely to see children working together and supporting each other when they found a particular element tricky. The journey of creating a lantern was as special as creating the end product. Unfortunately, due to adverse weather the parade was cancelled again but several children paraded around their garden and sent us some fabulous photographs.