**Ethos and Core Values**

Equality

Care

Community

Respect

Excellence in Education

**School promotes:**

sense of belonging to the school community and wider society

personal approach to students

restorative practice

**Teaching philosophy**

My teaching philosophy is focused on creating a **nurturing, caring and inclusive** environment where students feel safe to express themselves where they feel like they are treated equally and can develop their unique skills and qualities.

**How do you incorporate Art History into your lessons**

I try to combine **theory with practice** so if for example I teach about a specific movement I firstly introduce students to the basic information about the movement and its characteristics, then I introduce artists, discuss their techniques and then I pair it with practical tasks.

**Describe a lesson you though was very successful**

**Describe how you differentiate for your students:**

For me differentiation is very important when it comes to making sure that all students feel equally motivated and supported. To support differentiation, I create tasks with different level of complexity. I give them choice of topics and materials to work with so they can feel more at ease and perhaps more confident that they will be able to complete a task. I also encourage students to work in groups or pairs which creates a sense of community and belonging

**Working with SEN students**

Flexibility and adaptability of a teacher and their teaching methodologies is extremely important here. Sometimes Sen students need frequent breaks, sometimes they are not able to work to the same schedule as the rest of the class.

**What would I see if I came to your classroom?**

W: Safe and **structured learning environment where** students are treated **equally** regardless to their background or ability.

You would see a nurturing and caring environment that is calm and fells relaxing for students.

You would see a space that is welcoming and has students’ wellbeing as the main focus of teaching and learning. You would see space that is that allows students to develop their skills and express their creative personalities. You would see space that is inspiring and has students artworks displayed in a gallery

**Tell me about yourself**

I have been working as a secondary school Art teacher since 2018. In my last post I have been working as an Art teacher but I also carried out all responsibilities of subject coordinator and head of art art department. I worked there for three years. Working there was very rewarding as I taught students from many backgrounds and created strong connections with them. I have also been able to organize a range of extra-curricular activities there which I think had a really positive impact on students and how school was seen by local community

**How did you incorporate other subjects into your lesson**

**Biology, Geography:** We had a project on Endangered Animals where students researched their chosen animal and then created a booklet with different facts about it. The project taught students a range of art techniques as each page of the booklet had an illustration made using a different technique.

**SPHE:** wellbeing – we created about 25 mural paintings to transform a neglected pathway in Balbriggan

**What strategies do you use to engage reluctant students?**

One of the strategies that worked very well for me was to connect projects to students interests

Another technique is to provide choice with assignments and materials

**How do you assess students progress?**

Through a combination of formative and summative assessment

Formative: feedback and ongoing observation during the class

Summative: Evaluating projects based on success criteria

**How do you promote originality and creativity**

By providing them with a range of materials and techniques. By providing them with inspiration. I always want my classroom to be inspiring for my students

**How do you manage classroom behaviour**

Through having set rules at the beginning of the year. Rules are always displayed

By using restorative practice with my students which allows me to build stronger relationships with them

**What role does technology play in your artroom**

As a tool to facilitate learning but not replace the skill itself that needs to be obtained and practiced by the student

What methods do you use to celebrate and display students artwork

In class gallery

Out of the class gallery

Art Exhibitions

Parent evenings

Community Projects (Etsy Shop)

**What do you do to keep your room safe**

I establish guidelines to follow for students

I discuss the risks with students before tasks and we discuss what to do if something happens

When working with sharp objects I always number them and students sign in / out when they use the object. I try to keep my artroom organised and labelled

**Describe time when you had to adapt a lesson plan**