

Art and Design at Ivybridge School

Intent

Our Art and Design curriculum aims to:

- Inspire pupils to explore their creativity with confidence and freedom.
- Equip children with the knowledge, skills, and techniques to express ideas in different media.
- Encourage risk-taking, decision-making and self-reflection through the artistic process.
- Immerse pupils in a wide range of art forms, movements and cultures.
- Develop an understanding of art history and cultural development, both locally and globally.

Through purposeful and carefully planned projects, pupils follow the full journey of an artist—from research and exploration to creating and evaluating. When children leave Ivybridge, they do so with the confidence to talk about, create and continue developing their artistic voice.

Implementation

- In EYFS, children explore colour, texture, and form through open-ended play and guided creative activities, helping them to express themselves visually and build early fine motor skills.
- In **Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2**, teachers follow a structured sequence that mirrors an artist's process:
 1. Research and exploration of a focus artist, style or concept
 2. Skills-based learning and experimentation
 3. Creation of a final piece (in varied media and scales)
 4. Evaluation using the language of art and design
- All teachers use **bespoke knowledge organisers** which provide artist/contextual information, key vocabulary, prior learning links, specific skills to be taught, and the intended final outcome.
- The long-term plan ensures broad coverage of artistic skills such as drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media, as well as exposure to a diverse range of artists, craft makers and designers.
- Sketchbooks are used from Year 1 to Year 6 to capture research, experimentation, and reflection. These move up the school with each child to show progression over time.

- Where possible, children visit galleries, explore public art in the local area, or engage in workshops with practising artists, enhancing their understanding of art in the wider world.
 - Lessons are inclusive and adapted for pupils with SEND through scaffolded resources, visual prompts, modelling, and differentiated tasks. Higher ability pupils are extended through open-ended creative challenges and peer-led critique.
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Impact

By the end of Year 6, pupils at Ivybridge Primary School will:

- Have developed confidence in using a range of artistic techniques, tools, and materials.
- Be able to talk about their work using the language of art, design and creativity.
- Understand the importance of art in different cultures, histories and communities.
- Be able to explore, take risks, and reflect meaningfully on their creative decisions.
- Recognise their own artistic development and take pride in their progress.

Impact is measured through:

- Sketchbook evidence and final pieces
- Teacher assessments linked to National Curriculum outcomes
- Pupil voice and reflection
- Monitoring by subject leaders through planning, book looks, and staff discussions

Our children leave Ivybridge as enthusiastic, reflective and capable young artists, ready to continue developing their creativity at secondary school and beyond.