Art and Design Curriculum Statement

Our Vision for Art and Design

At Laira Green Primary, we value Art and Design as an essential part of our broad and balanced curriculum. Our children are encouraged to express their creativity, imagination and thought as they learn how to view, discuss and make art from a variety of cultures and traditions. We believe that it is important for children to engage with the arts regularly which is why our Art and Design curriculum intends to spark creativity in our children through providing frequent opportunities to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design using a range of materials and media.

The aims of our art curriculum are to develop children who:

- 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.

Curriculum Organisation and Progression

At Laira Green Primary, we use Kapow as our scheme of work for Art and Design. Our curriculum is structured around five strands that run through each unit of learning:

- **Generating ideas -** developing thinking creative thinking and planning
- **Using sketchbooks** - recording observations, experimenting and refining ideas
- **Making skills (formal elements)** - building technical proficiency in line, shape, tone, texture, pattern, form and colour
- **Knowledge of artists** - learning about great artists, craft makers and designers from different periods and cultures
- **Evaluating and analysing** - critically reflecting on their own work and that of others

These strands ensure a balanced coverage of the practical, theoretical and disciplinary knowledge children need to progress in Art and Design, while supporting the development of both creative confidence and critical thinking.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Children in our Preschool and Reception classes develop a love of Art through imaginative play, independent exploration and guided experiences. They are encouraged to express themselves creatively by exploring a wide range of materials, tools and techniques. Through these experiences, children develop their understanding of colour, design, texture, form and pattern, while learning to use materials and equipment safely and with increasing confidence.

Art is woven throughout our continuous provision and independent learning opportunities, allowing children to explore their own ideas, make independent choices and develop their creativity at their own pace. Children have regular opportunities to experiment with different media, discover new techniques and develop their artistic skills through purposeful play and creative exploration.

Weekly challenges, linked to the term's themes, provide further opportunities for children to apply and develop their Art skills. These challenges encourage children to observe the world around them, explore their own ideas and communicate their thoughts and experiences through creative expression.

Throughout Preschool and Reception, children are supported to develop their confidence in drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and working with a variety of materials. They are encouraged to experiment, make choices and reflect on their creations, gradually developing their understanding of how different tools and techniques can be used to achieve a desired effect. Children are also introduced to the work and styles of a range of artists, helping them to develop their artistic vocabulary, appreciation and understanding of different approaches to creating art.

Through independent learning, guided sessions and regular opportunities to create, children develop the skills, confidence and curiosity needed to express themselves creatively. They learn to value the process of making as well as the finished outcome, laying the foundations for a lifelong enjoyment of Art.

Teaching and Learning in Art and Design

Our children explore the elements of art through a wide range of media as we teach the technical skills needed in **Drawing, Painting and Mixed Media, Sculpture and 3D and Craft and design**. Our art curriculum allows children to revisit, build and extend their knowledge, skills and techniques throughout their primary education. Through revisiting each of the art elements, their learning is consolidated and children develop

increasing confidence and competence which elevates their self-esteem, as well as their enjoyment of the subject.

Our approach to progression ensures that children develop increasingly sophisticated skills as they move through the school. For example, in sculpture, children in Year 1 learn sculpting techniques using paper, while in Year 2, children use clay to develop these skills as they learn to sculpt patterns in clay tiles. Children further these skills as they experiment and build sculptures with recycled materials, considering form, structure and how materials can be manipulated and combined.

Art and Design Beyond the Classroom

At Laira Green, we provide additional learning opportunities through a number of art-focused extra-curricular clubs including, a 'make it' club for our Reception and Key Stage 1 children as well as a KS2 'Arts and Crafts' club.

During their time at Laira Green Primary, we want our children to develop a love of art and an appreciation of the different styles, forms, cultures and traditions. We believe every child is an artist and we want them to enjoy a positive, confident and successful art and design journey that prepares them with the skills, experience and confidence they need for a happy and successful future.