



# Art at Limehurst

## What is 'art?'

Many can argue that art cannot be defined, as it is often down to interpretation and differs depending on the individual. Technically anything that can offer meanings, interpretation, evoke feelings and creativity can be classed as 'art.'

In the primary curriculum, art is typically taught in a visual form; focussing on drawings and paintings, sculptures and other art, craft and design techniques (rather than, music, literature and dance/movement). This puts a little more clarity on what should be taught and learnt, to provide a consistent and tighter curriculum.

The National Curriculum aims for art and design are to ensure that all pupils:

- 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

## Why is art important- what is its purpose?

Art, craft and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity.

Art offers multiple answers and interpretations when analysing pieces of work or creating pieces of work; this encourages children to 'have a voice' and explore curiosities, deepening their imagination, which is particularly helpful for those children who may be a little reluctant to join in, due to anxieties and fear of 'getting it wrong.'

There are cross-curricular links within art that can be transferred to other subjects, such as exploring ideas and debating, developing fine and gross motor skills and providing historical and cultural links. Although, all 4 types of learning (auditory, visual, reading/writing and kinaesthetic) can be used within lessons, art particularly helps kinaesthetic and visual learners to engage and grow. It also offers a new way of thinking and broadens understanding for children who usually like to read and write or auditory learners.

The arts can be good for mental wellbeing, as a form of expression and has been known to relieve stress.



### How art should be taught

A high quality art and design lesson should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.