

Art at Milton Road Primary School

Our vision

We want our children to be happy today, fulfilled in the future and able to make their world a brighter place.

At Milton Road, we believe that creativity is a trait to which we are all entitled. All children have the right to a relevant, purposeful and holistic art curriculum. A high-quality art education should enable all children to explore, question and make. It should equip them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to experiment and reflect. It should offer a range of opportunities to facilitate progress. Pupils should also learn how art, design and craft reflect and shape our history, and contribute to our creativity and cultural capital. We want to give children as many opportunities as possible to express themselves in art and to build their confidence in drawing, painting, sculpture and printing, as well as other art forms. We want children to take risks with their artwork and to develop their critical thinking skills in order that they can analyse an art form and justify their opinions. Sketchbooks are important in developing the children's skills, as they provide a safe place to try out ideas, recognise the value in mistakes and foster individuality. We believe that every child's sketchbook should be a reflection of their creative journey. We encourage children to learn from and be inspired by the work of artists from different cultures, and understand the contribution art has made to society, both past and present. As drawing skills are central to developing other skills in art, they form the essential starting point for all units in our art curriculum. We have an annual whole school drawing event, *Draw More* which raises the profile of art in the school and creates the opportunity to celebrate children's work through display. It is also a helpful tool in assessing progression in drawing across the school. We also hold an art week in the summer term, during which children in all year groups are given the opportunity to study and be inspired by a piece of art.

How we plan for and teach Art and Design

Children complete six units of art per year, two in each term. In order to deliver a deep and broad curriculum, we follow the AccessArt pathways. Their expertise in pedagogy, links to artists and activity-based resources ensure that the art curriculum at Milton Road is rich and diverse. Each pathway is planned to cover the skills detailed in the progression document. We enrich our curriculum by providing additional opportunities for children to visit galleries and museums, work with artists and take part in whole school art events.

How we evaluate learning in Art and Design

At Milton Road, we assess children into 3 groups: exceeding the expected standard, meeting expectations or working towards the expected standard. Teachers assess children at the end of each unit, according to the National Curriculum and the practical and theoretical skills covered in the pathway. Children are encouraged to evaluate their own work regularly during each pathway, making notes in their sketchbooks and making choices in response to their reflections. Via a class crit at the end of each pathway, the children are given the opportunity to share and respond to the work of other children. We collect photographs of work in order to assess, review and improve outcomes for the children over a longer period of time.