



Art Policy

Introduction

This Art Policy outlines our commitment to delivering a high-quality art education in our nursery and infant school, in alignment with the 2014 National Curriculum in England. The policy is designed to provide a framework for teaching, learning, and assessment in the arts, ensuring that all children have the opportunity to engage in creative and experimental processes. It aims to foster an appreciation of art, build skills, and encourage personal expression while meeting the standards set by Ofsted. At Phoenix, we are taking inspiration from 'Access Arts' for our art planning and teaching as well as using art to celebrate events throughout the year including Remembrance Day.

Aims and Objectives

1. **Develop Creative Skills:** To develop children's creativity through exploring and making art, using a variety of materials, techniques, and processes.
2. **Cultural Understanding:** To enhance children's understanding of art in different cultures and historical contexts.
3. **Personal Expression:** To provide opportunities for children to express their ideas, thoughts, and feelings through visual representation.
4. **Confidence Building:** To build self-esteem and confidence in each child's ability to create and appreciate art.
5. **Critical Thinking:** To foster critical thinking and visual literacy through discussions about artworks and the creative process.
6. **Collaborative Learning:** To encourage collaboration and sharing of ideas among peers.

Curriculum Framework

Overview

In accordance with the 2014 National Curriculum, the art curriculum for nursery and infant schools will be structured around the following key areas:

- **Exploring and Using Media and Materials**
 - Children will experiment with a range of media, including paint, clay, collage, textiles, and digital technologies.
- **Responding to Art**
 - Children will explore and respond to works of art, discussing their preferences and opinions while considering the context in which art was created.
- **Developing Techniques**
 - Children will learn to use various techniques for drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture to express their ideas visually.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of their time in nursery and infant school, children will be able to:

1. Use a variety of materials and processes to express their ideas and feelings.
2. Describe and discuss their own artwork and the artwork of others.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of key techniques and concepts in art.
4. Work independently and collaboratively to create artworks.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

- **Interactive and Play-Based Learning:** Emphasis will be placed on hands-on, play-based learning experiences that stimulate creativity and exploration.
- **Inclusive Practices:** All activities will be designed to be inclusive and accessible, accommodating the diverse needs and backgrounds of all children.
- **Regular Feedback:** Implement a system of constructive feedback through formative assessment, encouraging children to reflect on their work and improve.
- **Showcasing Work:** Displaying art work regularly, promoting a sense of pride and achievement.

Assessment and Evaluation

- **Ongoing Assessment:** Continuous observational assessment will be employed to gauge each child's progress, including their engagement, participation, and skill development in art.
- **Evaluation of Policy:** This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with evolving curricular requirements and best practices.

Conclusion

This Art Policy is integral to our commitment to providing an outstanding arts education that enriches children's lives and nurtures their development. We will continually strive to ensure that our art education aligns with best practices and meets the expectations outlined by Ofsted for high-quality teaching and learning.

Summary of Ofsted Expectations

In line with the most recent Ofsted framework, a strong emphasis is placed on:

- **Quality of Education:** Inspections will evaluate the robustness of the curriculum, its implementation, and the impact on children's learning.
- **Personal Development:** Assessing how well the school encourages personal growth, including creativity, confidence, and collaboration.
- **Leadership and Management:** Reviewing how effectively leaders promote the arts and allocate resources to support an engaging curriculum.

By adhering to these standards, we aim to provide an exceptional educational experience that fosters creativity and a lifelong appreciation for the arts.