

Art and Design at Hatfeild Primary School



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Intent

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, Art and Design is an integral part of the *Expressive Arts and Design* area of learning. At Hatfeild Primary School, we aim to provide a firm foundation for creativity by encouraging children to explore, experiment and express their ideas through a wide range of materials and experiences. We believe that creativity and imagination are central to children's development and self-esteem.

Children are given opportunities to communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas through visual art, whilst developing early artistic skills such as drawing, painting, printing, collage and sculpture. Alongside this, we support the development of fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination through a variety of creative activities. We also begin to develop children's cultural capital by introducing them to a range of artists, craft makers and designers.

Implementation

In EYFS, Art and Design is taught through a balance of adult-led experiences and child-initiated learning, in line with the EYFS framework and Development Matters.

Creative opportunities are embedded within continuous provision, both indoors and outdoors. Well-stocked creative areas are available daily, allowing children to independently access a range of materials including paint, clay, drawing tools and collage resources. This enables children to explore and revisit skills, make independent choices and develop their own creative ideas.

Practitioners support learning by working alongside children to model techniques, introduce key vocabulary and ask open-ended questions to deepen thinking. Children are encouraged to talk about their creations and the processes they have used.

Outdoor provision further enhances artistic development through opportunities such as large-scale mark-making, use of natural materials and transient art. This allows children to explore creativity in different ways while also supporting their physical development.

In EYFS, children's artistic development is recorded through floor books, observations and displays around the classroom and school. These celebrate both the process and outcomes of learning. This provides the foundation for Key Stage 1, where children begin to use sketchbooks to record, develop and refine their ideas.

Impact

The impact of Art and Design in EYFS is evident in children who are confident and enthusiastic creators. They are able to express their ideas and emotions through a range of materials and show increasing control and coordination in their work.

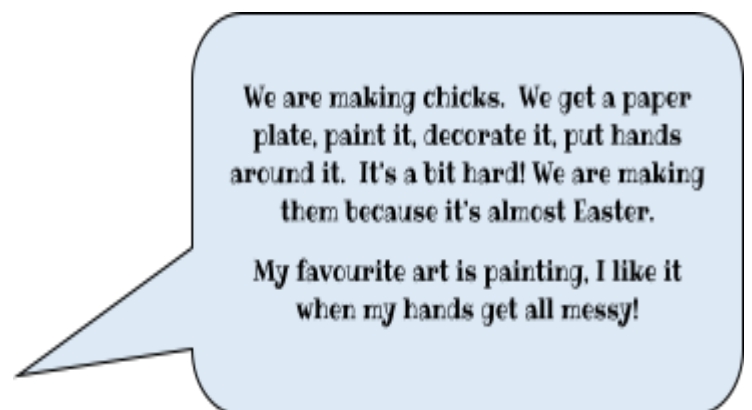
Children demonstrate independence by selecting resources and making decisions about their creations. They begin to talk about their own work and that of others, developing an appreciation of art and creativity.

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They show resilience and perseverance when exploring new techniques and take pride in their achievements. By the end of EYFS, children have developed the foundational skills, knowledge and vocabulary needed to access the Key Stage 1 curriculum and continue their journey as creative and reflective learners.

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.” Pablo Picasso.



Comments made by our wonderful Nursery and Reception children

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We use floor books in Nursery and Reception to record the children's artistic development. Art is threaded through all areas of the EYFS curriculum and both during indoor and outdoor learning. The children have done some amazing art. We are very proud of them and love displaying their work in the classrooms and around the school.

