



# The Meadow Community Primary School and Pre-School

## Curriculum position statements – August 2020

### Art

#### Historical

Art continues to be an integral part of The Meadow Community Primary School. There is evidence of the importance of art throughout the school. Works of art are displayed in the small hall and in the main KS1 corridor there is a display from a previous collaboration with Abingdon High school.

Art continues to be monitored and planned thoroughly by the current art leader with elements of pattern, line, colour, texture being the main focus across the school.

I believe that the pressures of the curriculum and data continue to place an ever demanding pressure on the teaching of the arts subjects and these subjects have not always been prioritised. In the case of teaching art as a subject in its own right this has also diminished and therefore evidence around the school suggested the teaching of Art was often a craft led or teacher instructed activity with little allowance for children's own creativity. It also appeared that a lack of progression of skills were being covered particularly in KS2. During 2019 -20 school and the pupils were affected greatly by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Normal teaching ceased and although lots of art type activities were planned not all children were able to access it due to lockdown.

#### Teaching and learning

Art continues to be taught in half termly blocks of an hour a week. This is often topic related. Children record work and this can be displayed. There appears to be no assessment in place regarding progression of work and there still remains little evidence in sketchbooks.

#### Wider Opportunities

Year 5 took part in an art afternoon in collaboration with Rachel Sawyer from Wigston Academy. All activities were based around the topic of south America and incorporated children using media they were not familiar with including acrylic paints. Everyone had a great afternoon and we are hoping to repeat a similar experience in the future.

#### Current

#### Teaching and Learning

After having the opportunity to review the current plans I have incorporated resources that I have been able to access from Art Access- a subscription we purchased in the previous year. I have looked at each topic and then collated a table of ideas and resources that accompany them. I am hoping that this will allow teachers to consider other activities that include the skills necessary to deliver a varied and wide curriculum in terms of art.

Art is still only taught in half termly blocks which may need to be re-evaluated in order to ensure all aspects are taught. I would prefer to see art taught every half term and maybe have it become more cross-curricular so links with other topic subjects.

#### Wider Opportunities

I am hoping that restrictions permitting staff inset to include practical activities and those which are led by secondary teachers from Wigston academy can be delivered- particularly in relation to the use of sketchbooks.



## Future aspiration

### Teaching and learning

- To support staff in the teaching of art using the new plans and see these implemented across the school.
- To investigate an easy system of assessing work that does not have time implications for staff.
- To continue provide comprehensive range of staff inset to cover all aspects of art that staff are not confident with.
- To consider art therapy activities to improve the mental wellbeing of staff and children.
- To continue to work with Wigston Academy on further workshops and staff meetings.
- To consider the possibility of pursuing an ARTSMART award.