



St John's CE Primary School

Maidstone.

Art and Design Vision

At St John's we think of every child as an artist. As well as teaching traditional areas of art including drawing, painting, printing, collage and sculpture, we also teach the children to use iPads to enhance their art experience. Ensuring a progression in the full range of skills needed by the children and promoting breadth and balance in their work is very important to us. Our approach enthuses the children and leads to some really exciting art and design outcomes.

With key emphasis on the work of different artists, children are taught about artistic practices and styles throughout history until present day. The National Curriculum advises pupils learn about "great artists, architects and designers in history". We believe that it is also important to include female artists, those from other cultures and contemporary artists. Being an outward looking school, we teach the children about not just British art, but also European art and art of the Americas.

Art and design provide visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a special way of understanding and responding to the world. Through art, children develop their emotional expression to further enhance their personal, social and emotional development. Art's contribution to children's wellbeing is especially pertinent in the current global climate of uncertainty.

Enabling children to communicate what they see, feel and think through the use of colour, texture, form and pattern leads to art and design experiences that have a truly positive impact on other areas of the curriculum. Art at St John's represents a tremendous opportunity for all children but in particular those who might find academic subjects challenging, to shine and feel valued.

Our children adore seeing their art and design work on display. The beautiful displays around our school are a testament to the quality of our teaching and learning practices. During the year, children take an active part in local art competitions and our popular after school clubs (Weaving Club, Arts & Crafts Club and Finch's Flexi Fingers) give the children even more opportunities to get creative outside of the classroom.

