



The Acorn Partnership

Marston Montgomery Primary School
Long Lane C of E Primary School

Art and Design Policy

Policy adopted – February 2026

To be reviewed – February 2029

Primary School Art & Design Policy

1. Introduction

This policy sets out the intent, implementation, and impact of Art & Design teaching across the Acorn Partnership. The policy aligns with the National Curriculum for Art and Design.

2. Aims of the Art & Design Curriculum

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop creativity, imagination and confidence through a broad range of artistic experiences.
- Express themselves freely and take creative risks in a supportive environment.
- Build progressively on skills in **drawing, painting, sculpture, craft and design**.
- Learn to evaluate and analyse artistic works using appropriate vocabulary.
- Learn about great artists, designers, architects and makers from a range of times and cultures.
- Work collaboratively and independently, sharing ideas and responding to others.
- Experience equality of access to high-quality art teaching regardless of age or ability within a mixed-age setting.

3. Curriculum Organisation

3.1 Mixed-Age Structure

To ensure progression and inclusivity in mixed-age classes:

- Units are planned around **skill progression**, not year-label progression.
- Objectives are **tiered**, allowing all pupils to work on the same theme at different levels of complexity.
- Younger pupils are supported through structured tasks; older or more experienced pupils are extended through independent exploration, more advanced techniques, and deeper reflection.
- Over a three-or-four year rolling programme, all pupils cover the full breadth of the Art curriculum.

3.2 Rolling Programme

The school uses a **long-term rolling cycle** to prevent repetition and ensure full coverage.

4. Teaching & Learning

4.1 Core Elements

All pupils develop knowledge and skills in:

- Exploring and developing ideas
- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Collage
- Textiles

- Printing
- Artist Focus

4.2 Lesson Approach

Art lessons include:

1. **Introduction of skills, materials or an artist**
2. **Demonstration of techniques**
3. **Guided practice for younger pupils / independent exploration for older pupils**
4. **Main creative task** with differentiated choice and challenge
5. **Review and reflection**, including speaking about art and evaluating outcomes

Lessons emphasise:

- Hands-on experimentation
- Effective use of sketchbooks
- Reflection and improvement
- Teaching vocabulary explicitly

4.3 Inclusion & SEND

Art is accessible to all through:

- A variety of materials supporting sensory and motor needs
- Step-by-step guidance for pupils needing additional structure
- Open-ended tasks promoting success at all levels
- Visual supports, demonstrations, and modelling
- Opportunities for pupils to work at their own pace

5. Assessment

Sketchbooks are used across the school to:

- Gather ideas and observations
- Explore techniques
- Experiment with materials
- Record artist studies
- Reflect on learning
-

6. Assessment

Teachers continuously observe pupils' ability to:

- Use tools, equipment and materials effectively
- Apply taught techniques with increasing confidence
- Develop ideas in sketchbooks
- Reflect on and evaluate their work

Evidence includes sketchbook work, final pieces, and teacher observations.

7. Resources

The school provides:

- A range of high-quality art materials
- Age-appropriate tools for mixed-age classrooms
- Access to images, books and digital resources

8. Health & Safety

Teachers ensure:

- Safe use of tools and equipment
- Clear routines for cleaning and storing materials
- Age-appropriate supervision for practical activities
- Allergy and sensory needs are considered when selecting materials

9. Monitoring & Review

The Art subject leader:

- Reviews planning and sketchbooks
- Monitors progression across mixed-age classes
- Supports staff with resources and training
- Leads curriculum development
- Reviews this policy every three years