

Why?

- To develop an appreciation of art from different times and cultures.
- Art is a subject which enables our children to be individuals. It encourages their own creativity, passion, imagination and individualism through perception and interpretation.
- Art develops fine motor skills, essential for improving handwriting, but also links to other areas of the National Curriculum through Computing, digital media, and Maths, particularly through 2D and 3D shapes.
- Art can have a sensory element through the exploration of various materials and media, linking to Science and Design and Technology.
- Art sits within a broad and balanced curriculum; it can develop children's skills regarding colour, texture, line and shape. Developing our children's skills in these areas also supports their social and intellectual development.
- Children are able to practise making appropriate choices in Art, an essential skill that they will use throughout life.
- Through individual choice, children can experiment, whilst developing curiosity and fostering enjoyment.
- Art can act as a vehicle for providing children with different and new experiences, counterbalancing the life experiences they already have.
- Providing children with various experiences can unlock hidden potential, develop natural flair and provide opportunities for the future through various ideas and options for future jobs and careers.
- Our children can achieve and progress in a subject that is not a core subject.
- Art enables children to learn that practise can improve their skills. It teaches children that mistakes are okay, and that everything is Art. It develops the skill of perseverance, breaking down the barriers to learning by promoting self-belief and building self-esteem.
- Art enables our children to reflect and analyse and give an opinion, learning how to listen and share their ideas.
- Art is an excellent tool to develop mindfulness and positive mental health, the absence of which would hinder learning and personal wellbeing.
- Art for our children is a way to communicate feelings.
- Some of our children have limited opportunities at home to develop basic skills due to limited quality family time.
- Encourages Wren's Nest children to be ambitious for future careers.
- For some children, Art can be a therapeutic process, enabling them to explore emotions and feelings.
- To develop a knowledge of famous artists from a variety of backgrounds, both past and present.

How?

- Building on knowledge – knowing more and remembering more.
- Identify strengths and areas for development through discussions with staff.
- Develop children's skills in the subject through a progressive long term curriculum.
- Improve the children's attitude towards art.
- Audit resources and order as appropriate.

What?

- Informal discussions with staff.
- Merits and team points are awarded to recognise effort and achievements throughout the year.
- Appropriate resources in the classrooms/Art cupboards to enable the Art skills to be taught effectively.
- Opportunities to undertake Art in other areas of the curriculum including through Wow days and Enrichment days.
- Reviewing the long term and medium term planning documents.
- Children are awarded the creativity award at the end of each year to identify particular strengths and achievements.
- Develop ideas from children's starting points.
- Inspire children by showing good models of specific art forms.
- Develop resilience to keep on trying, encouraging children to develop what they have done.

*The terms "Art/Artist" are used in this document for simplicity, although they can be considered to include "Design/Designer" or "Craft/Crafter"