



Art

The art curriculum at Pye Bank develops creativity, sets problems to be tackled, engages pupils and equips them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art. The curriculum is designed with creativity in mind, and enables pupils to build on skills acquired as they progress through each year. Pupils are encouraged to explore and investigate, create and evaluate artwork as set out in the National Curriculum whilst studying a wide range of artists, architects and designers from throughout history.

At Pye Bank, pupils focus on three key areas of art; drawing, painting and sculpture through each academic year. As they progress through school, they have the opportunity to build their skills and knowledge in each of these key areas. Basic skills are introduced, then built upon and finally revisited, with the use of ongoing sketchbook work underpinning this process. We believe in fostering an open-ended exploration of creativity with units of work not following prescriptive outcomes. Instead, we believe the role of the teacher is to introduce key skills, materials, artists and ideas to the pupils in such a way that each pupil can then explore his or her own creativity. By creating a safe and nurturing environment, pupils are encouraged to take creative risks and to learn from the journey explaining their choices, rather than head towards a pre-defined end result.

Our curriculum develops the concepts of colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. The pupils use a variety of different mediums in which to explore these concepts, adding new experiences and skills as they move through school. The provision is enhanced by the inclusion of art-related trips and visitors.

During FS, pupils focus on early painting skills, followed by drawing figures and manipulating play dough and plasticine. They then move onto more focused units in Key Stage One. Pupils will focus on the units of portraits, landscapes, still life and making shapes in clay whilst studying the work of six different artists. As pupils progress into Key Stage Two, they will participate in units based around still life, landscapes, figures, 3D drawing, Fauvism, abstract art and architecture. By the end of Year 6, pupils should be able to converse about art and artists; draw comparisons between different practices and disciplines and make links to their own work. Through the repeated exposure to open ended tasks, pupils will become adept at problem-solving and using their own ideas to explore, experiment and create their final piece of work.