

**“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up”.**  
**Pablo Picasso**



# Art at Clapgate



**“Art is not what you see but what you make others see.”**  
**Edgar Degas**

## Vision

At Clapgate we believe that art is a vital part of pupils' education and has a significant and valuable role in the taught National Curriculum. Art and design provides opportunities for pupils to develop a range of ways in which they can share and express their individual creativity, whilst learning about and making links with the wide variety of art in our society. We aim to deliver a high-quality art and design curriculum which engages, inspires and challenges pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own pieces of art and design. All pupils are provided with opportunities to express themselves through a range of chosen mediums. They gain the confidence to experiment with a variety of materials, to use drawing, painting and sculpting techniques to bring their ideas to life, and to practise art and design techniques when using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

## Vocabulary

Our art lessons will develop art vocabulary from early years to year 6. Children will be introduced to key art vocabulary during their weekly art lessons. They will be encouraged to use the specific vocabulary when speaking and annotating their work in their sketchbooks. Alongside this, in the art room there are key areas for art vocabulary which children have access to throughout their lesson. All lessons will build on previous learning to give children a consistent learning platform, ready for high school and future art teaching.

## Keep up and catch up

Through formative assessment and observing during art lessons and specialist sessions, we identify children who are at risk of developing gaps in their learning and address these. Participation of lessons is always encouraged.

## SEND

Even though art and design is accessible to everyone, children who struggle to access the learning at the expected level for their age are given appropriate supports within lessons. This can include repeated modelling of specific skills, use of modified resources, small group work, adult support, and the opportunity to practise skills and techniques in their sketchbook with lots of verbal feedback and visual prompts to help their understanding and progression.

The skills and knowledge that our pupils will develop throughout their art units are mapped out across each year group and key stage to ensure progression. Where possible, we link the pupils' art and design units to other curriculum areas, such as history and geography. Pupils are given opportunities to express their creative imagination, as well as practise and develop mastery in the key processes of art: drawing, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture.

Our art teacher ensures the art work planned for pupils is demanding and matches the aims of the Art and Design National Curriculum. Alongside this, the children have access to a well-resourced art room which is used specifically for art lessons and this helps to support pupils' confidence in the use of different media. Content is presented clearly, promoting appropriate discussion and ensuring pupils can explore, discuss and evaluate the work of artists, designers, makers, architects and photographers that they are studying. Pupil's knowledge and skills in art and design are further enhanced by carefully planned visits and workshops to a variety of galleries. These visits not only enhance their learning experiences but also their cultural awareness.

Through curriculum progression, pupils will be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also gain an awareness of how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

**Clapgate**  
Primary School  
**Inspiring Young Minds**

## Assessment

We use a variety of strategies such as regular and consistent feedback, coherently planned and demanding learning experiences and the use of individual sketchbooks to evaluate the knowledge, skills and understanding that our pupils have gained during each half-termly unit. Sketchbooks are central and vital to all work undertaken in the art room. Children are free to act in their sketchbooks as they feel. They are not marked but children receive regular oral feedback and suggestions on post it notes. Pupils are expected to think critically, discuss and express their options and views on artists work, their own work and that of their peers. As a result, pupils develop detailed knowledge and a wide variety of skills across the art and design curriculum and achieve the best possible outcomes producing work of a high quality. This is also demonstrated throughout the school in creative displays.