



Lotus
Academy

Art Curriculum
Creative





Art Overview

Intent

Our Art curriculum provides a safe and supportive space where pupils can express themselves, regulate emotions, and build confidence through creativity. It prioritises wellbeing while developing artistic skills, encouraging pupils to explore materials, learn about artists, and take pride in their work. Through learning about art and artists, pupils improve communication, form positive relationships, and develop independence as well as build resilience, and transferable skills to support their future learning and life beyond school. It is further designed to provide a safe, nurturing and expressive environment where all pupils can explore creativity, develop confidence, and communicate their thoughts, feelings and experiences in meaningful ways.

Implementation

Our approach to implementing the Art curriculum is carefully structured to meet the diverse social, emotional and learning needs of pupils who attend Lotus Academy. Learning is designed to be accessible, engaging and supportive, ensuring all pupils can develop independence, build confidence, develop resilience and build relationships. Within each phase there is a focus on developing essential disciplinary knowledge enabling the building of foundational knowledge, as well as reinforce prior learning. The curriculum is also designed to promote diversity, cultural understanding and representation in art as pupils explore a wide range of artists, and cultures, supporting both personal development and social awareness.

Substantive knowledge is developed through the key concepts of creation, significant people, artwork and movements, and critical thinking and evaluation. As children build this knowledge progressively, they are able to explore and develop artistic techniques through the use of various media, including paint, texture and pencil.

Within lower school (KS2), learning is designed to support emotional connection and accessibility as children are gradually introduced to the concepts in an exploratory way, becoming familiar with famous artists. This foundation is then built on into middle school (KS3), as pupils extend their knowledge through exposure to a wider range of art forms, historical periods and cultures. Pupils will use increasingly complex techniques as they refine their use of media, also enabling them to work more independently.

All aspects of the art curriculum are structured to increase autonomy through choice-based tasks, independent research, and self-directed sketchbook development.



	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 3/4 – Cycle A	Funny Faces and Fabulous Features	Street View	Exploring Colours
Year 3/4 – Cycle B	Still Life	Portraits and Poses	Rain and Sunrays
Year 5/6 – Cycle A	Prehistoric Pots	Ammonite	Mosaic Masters
Year 5/6 – Cycle B	Vista	Statues, Statuettes and Figurines	Mixed Media
Year 7/8 – Cycle A	Taotie	Nature's Art	Trailblazers, Barrier Breakers
Year 7/8 – Cycle B	Environmental Artists	Line, Light and Shadows	Distortion and Abstraction
Y9	The Principles of Art (Oak)	The Importance of nature in art (Oak)	Art for Wellbeing: expression and belonging (Oak)