Teaching Art in Primary Schools

“Thank you so much. I can’t tell you how excited I am about using your wonderful website & resources! I have been worrying for a while now about our Art curriculum, progression of skills, Ofsted Deep Dives etc. and I now feel so much better! I think this is exactly what our school needs and has been crying out for. Thank you so much.” Kate

Why Teach Art in Primary Schools?

Why indeed!

It often feels like we have forgotten why we teach art in schools. It can feel like a hard slog, trying to fit the subject in, and often trying to teach it with little specialist knowledge within the school.

But! In schools where art is taught well, the whole environment buzzes with the creativity, energy and insight which art can bring.

We want to enable all pupils to feel able to think and act creatively. That means exploring all aspects of creativity: personal and social, exploring art for a variety of reasons, in a variety of contexts. Most importantly, it
means enjoying the journey, so that pupils want to engage in creative activities, and so that they can grow to appreciate and value the importance of art as a highly subjective and individual experience, but one which is capable of bringing people together.

And we also want teachers to enjoy teaching art – and we are here to support you in that.

Below, Curtis Holder, Winner of the Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year 2020, Series 7, shares how his primary art teachers made such an impact upon his life, both then and now.

Curriculum Planning

AccessArt has many years experience in helping schools (and the wider community) deliver high quality visual arts teaching. Our core aim is to
raise the quality of visual arts teaching and learning through sharing inspirational practice.

Teaching art should be rewarding, and our curriculum planning advice will help teachers build their own facilitation skills, as well as providing comprehensive and creative activities for children.

Exemplar & Progression Plans

AccessArt has created 3 plans to help Primary schools deliver a rich, exciting and relevant art education.

1) The EYFS Exemplar Curriculum Plan
2) The Primary Art Curriculum Plan
3) The AccessArt Progression Plan

The resources included are suitable for pupils of all abilities, and can be confidently delivered by
specialist and non-specialist teachers alike.

Developing the Primary Curriculum – FAQ

AccessArt has collected together some of the questions we often get asked about how we can help teachers develop the primary art curriculum.

Visual Arts Planning
See how AccessArt resources can help enrich other curriculum areas.

A series of collections based around common primary school themes or topics, to help you find resources which will feed your classroom practice.

Inset & CPD

Outside Covid times, AccessArt offers physical CPD
in the Eastern Region.

We also offer effective zoom-based CPD to schools across the UK and overseas

Pedagogy in Practice

To complement our evolving collection of resources to support visual arts exploration in the classroom and community, AccessArt is creating a series of resources which help teachers explore pedagogy and approach. Read More

Which Artists?
AccessArt is pleased to announce a brand new area of our site which is in development!

“Which Artists?” aims to introduce learners and teachers to a wide range of artists, build understanding of their work and approaches, and understand how you can use that understanding to inspire your own creativity.

The Drawing Journey
The AccessArt Drawing Journey for ages 5 to 11 provides schools with a clear, accessible but ambitious journey for drawing progression.

The Sketchbook Journey

We’re here to help you instigate, explore and develop creative sketchbook use.

Explore the AccessArt Sketchbook Journey to build your understanding of how best we can use sketchbooks, including resources for the classroom.

Drawing and Making
Drawing and Making are perfect partners – each inspiring and informing the other. Be inspired by this set of resources which will help enable hand eye coordination and creative thinking.

The AccessArt Offer to Send

We believe that creativity is in us all and each and everyone of us has the right to express
ourselves through creative process, no matter what the barriers to that might be. Follow this link for more about Special Educational Needs and Disability.

AccessArt and Artsmark

Artsmark places creativity at the heart of education. Find out how AccessArt can support teachers and schools on their Artsmark journey.

See All Resources & Get in Touch
We currently have over 1100 resources to inspire you! Explore here

We’d love to hear from you with any questions – pls get in touch!

Art  Education  Teacher Networks
Explore Networks in Your Area

Let AccessArt Inspire & Enable You!

With over 8000 members, AccessArt is used by hundreds of schools across the UK and overseas to help develop and deliver a rich and creative visual arts education. Find out how we can help you, and please get in touch if you have any questions.