



Art @Perschore High School

Intent:

The Art and Design curriculum at Perschore High sets out to creatively raise student's self-awareness, their sense of cultural identity and promote the mobility of their ideas and feelings. Our provision enables students varied opportunities to develop their visual literacy, to explore different methods and processes, respond to artists from the past and make links to contemporary practice. Guided by our threshold concepts, we aim to help students recognise that Art has its own vocabulary, that it is not fixed in meaning and that it engages head, hands and heart. It is a subject that celebrates mistakes and has the ability to enrich, challenge and inspire students to make things happen for themselves as culturally aware and engaged citizens.

Implementation:

Our Art curriculum has a spiral structure that enables students to build on prior learning with increasing technical and conceptual maturity. The curriculum is organised around a series of interlinked thematic projects that explore different art forms, techniques, styles, and media. All our projects are underpinned by the introduction of thematically relevant artists and their historical and cultural contexts. We pride ourselves on the range of resources and materials we generate to catalyse students' creativity; we also make good use of art books, online resources, and visits to museums and galleries, to support students' learning.

Our teaching method often begins with teacher led workshops to introduce students to new ways of working and approaching thematic content; as projects develop they are designed to be interactive and students are strongly encouraged and supported to take an active role in their own creative learning. We place a big emphasis on practical workshops to provide haptic learning experiences as we believe students need to experience something to really learn it and to incorporate the information into their long-term memory.

We promote the accumulation of knowledge and skills through modelling of good working habits; often in sketchbooks – a place where students can document their experiences, record their attempts to practice techniques, investigate artists, review and refine work and act on feedback. Students are encouraged to contribute to the wider creative life of the school via extracurricular art activities, such as art clubs, exhibitions, and competitions, in order to develop their skills and creativity outside of the classroom.

Impact:

Our Art curriculum aims to have a positive impact on students in a range of different ways, including:

- Developing students' visual literacy to enable them to observe, comprehend and appreciate the visually evolving world that surrounds them through exposure to Art and Design past and present.
- Developing students' visual curiosity and identity through visual forms of communication and expression in a wide range of media and techniques.
- Promote the mobilisation of students' ideas, feelings and concepts making use of artistic language to sequentially make thoughts visible to others.
- Fostering an appreciation of the diversity of artistic expression across different cultures, and of the importance of art in promoting cultural understanding, social cohesion, and acceptance.
- Encouraging students' to critically reflect on their own creative work and to develop their problem-solving skills as a means of improving their work, and to develop an appreciation of the work of others across the creative arts.