

Art and Design at Elmridge Primary School

“Art, craft and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity. A high-quality art and design education should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.” **National Curriculum 2014**

At Elmridge, Art and Design is taught in each year group through a termly cross-curricular theme. Themes are used as a vehicle to develop key skills across a range of subjects. The children are encouraged to be spontaneously creative, using a variety of media and techniques in art and craftwork. An awareness of colour, shape, balance, focus and proportion are developed alongside the use of symbols to convey ideas and feelings. The study of a wide range of artists, craftspeople and designers complements this work. During their time at our school, children will gain experience of using pencils, pastels, paint, charcoal and clay. They will use techniques of collage, weaving and applique to create their own pieces of art.

In addition to curricular sessions all children in school have opportunity to participate within art workshops led by Mrs Oldfield, our specialist art teacher. We have close links with Altrincham College of Arts and frequently visit the gallery to work alongside local artists.

Art and Design is at the heart of the curriculum at Elmridge and celebrated in our many displays around school. We firmly believe that developing and celebrating the arts is hugely important for children and young people’s education. We currently hold the Gold Arts Mark award in recognition of our provision in this area. (Artsmark is Arts Council England’s flagship programme to enable schools and other organisations to evaluate, strengthen and celebrate their arts and cultural provision.)

