

# St. Mary's

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Church of England Primary School  
Kirkby Lonsdale

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Art Pupil Voice - Oct 2022



## **Pupil Voice (Art and Design)**

On Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, St Mary's CE Primary School carried out a survey of pupils' thoughts and opinions in order to assess how the children feel about Art and Design, to discover, in their opinion, where our strengths lie and where we could improve. The following report is an analysis of the pupils' voice.

Two children from each class, from Year 1 to Year 6 were randomly selected to take part in a short interview, using the '2Simple' questionnaire, so each child was asked the same questions. We chose two children to take part so that they could help and support each other.

### **Do you enjoy learning Art and Design at school?**

All the children were very positive about their learning at St Mary's. They were all enthusiastic and loved the opportunity to experiment and do something different:

"We only do Art once a week but English five times a week. We should do more because it makes you feel good. Creativity is intelligence."

"I find it interesting. I really like it."

"I find it peaceful."

"I like how you can just draw anything."

"I look forward to it."

"It's my favourite subject."

"I like drawing butterflies and flowers and a picture of my mum..."

### **Are your Art and Design lessons fun at school?**

The children answered very enthusiastically. They loved their lessons:

"I loved printing with foam. It was very exciting."

"I really look forward to it."

"I don't enjoy the researching, I prefer doing it...the practical stuff!"

"I like getting better at drawing."

### **How often do you have Art and Design lessons?**

Most of the children have lessons once a week, alternating on a half termly basis with Design and Technology. They would like to do more. We could extend our provision with a lunch-time club and an after-school session.

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The children mentioned how much they loved our Home Projects Days, as an opportunity to do "arty challenges" and show off their products to their friends.

### **Do adults support you when you are unsure about your learning?**

There was an enthusiastic and unambiguously positive reply to this question. The children appreciated the variety of activities that they were allowed to do.

### **Can you name and use some Art and Design techniques?**

The children found this a tricky question to answer. They could name painting, drawing, sketching, shading, dry-brushing, dabbing, collage, gluing and cutting. I think there is an opportunity to be more explicit when teaching the six strands in our scheme – collage, printing, painting, drawing, 3D work and textiles. In this way we could reference what the children have learnt before in previous year groups and build on that progression.

### **Have you used a range of different tools to create your work?**

Again, the children found this a tricky question and had to ponder it for a while. They remembered rollers, inks, paint, brushes, charcoal, paper, hard and soft pencils, sharpies, scissors, cotton wool buds, clay tools and pastels.

### **Are there enough resources during your lessons such as paint, construction material and glue?**

The children felt that all their lessons were well-resourced and they had plenty of opportunity to explore, make mistakes and try again. However, the children weren't able to access their resources freely and didn't know where they were kept. Dependent on classroom space and furniture, it would be ideal if art resources could be kept out and freely accessible to the children, so that they have the opportunity to explore and refine their skills. This happens in EYFS, where the culture of continuous provision allows the child to explore freely. Time constraints and a full curriculum make this tricky further up the school but accessible resources would help to develop independent, organised pupils.

### **Do you use any technology in Art and Design lessons such as composition software on tablets?**

The children can use drawing and painting software to create Art on our tablets and Chrome books. They really enjoyed doing this and carried on creating at home. They used Scratch, 'Sketchbook' and 'Google Classroom.'

### **Actions to consider:**

- Make available computing time to create art work;
- Ensure that Art resources are easily accessible in the classroom to allow the children to operate independently;
- When teaching a strand of our Art curriculum, to be more explicit about what we are learning eg textiles or printing, and refer back to their learning in a different year group.