



Expressive Arts and Design

Intent

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that they have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe.

At St Joseph's preschool we want children to be able to express their ideas, imagination and thoughts through the arts with independence and freedom.

We want children to:

- explore creative materials and different media to support their own designs
- participate in open ended imaginative play using a variety of resources
- take risks in their creative play and to keep going when things get difficult
- try new challenges and ways of working to create and make for a purpose
- explore different sounds and make their own sounds using different materials
- participate in movement games and understand that it is okay for others to move in different ways
- explore real life musical instruments and the sounds they make
- make their own sounds and rhythms and to move freely to them

Implementation

Being creative is valued and promoted at St Joseph's preschool throughout the whole environment which is organised to allow children the freedom to explore their creativity independently in both the inside and outside areas.

Through adult planned and child led activities children are able to explore a variety of materials and tools and are encouraged to become independent thinkers.

Throughout the year we have planned experiences for children to participate in giving them the opportunity to take part using a variety of resources and materials providing further learning opportunities.

All About me – children are given the opportunity to make self-portraits which supports the development of pencil control and shapes.

Bonfire night, Christmas, Diwali and other celebrations – children are given the opportunity to explore colours, colour mixing, shapes and textures.

Talk for writing – Children are given the opportunity to create models, pictures and art work to link in with a story that they have orally learnt.

Singing is part of our daily routine and children are encouraged to join in with new and familiar songs. They will learn nursery rhymes, songs and actions throughout the year and will become familiar with a wide range. Dance times are incorporated within the routine both planned and unplanned and there are opportunities embedded into our practice supporting physical movement development and encouraging creativity and imagination.

We do this by:

- free choice craft – children independently decide what they would like to do and choose from a variety of tools, media and other resources freely available in the craft area.
- being creative can happen in all areas - adults support children in making their creations and will follow the child's lead. In the loose parts play outside recycled materials, various sticking materials and natural resources are readily available to express their ideas and imagination through play.
- children having access to large and small resources, encouraging them to talk about how and why things happen.
- music station – children have opportunities to explore real life instruments and natural resources to make and listen to different sounds and beats. They are encouraged through craft activities to make their own instruments and discuss the sounds and beats of their creations.
- planned adult led games providing opportunities to explore environmental and body percussion sounds which will be revisited throughout the year so children get a sound knowledge and understanding of how sounds are made.
- spontaneous ring games, dancing games and music times are encouraged and embedded throughout our routine. Adults will follow children's lead in supporting the development of their imagination, encouraging positive relationships and an understanding of their individuality.

Impact

By the time children leave St Joseph's preschool we want them to:

- describe and talk about what they have created
- use and connect materials to construct and build
- engage positively with their peers
- use imaginary play to interact with others
- control and manipulate objects
- mould and sculpt different materials
- mix materials to create different tones and colours
- create art work and use materials that are 2d and 3d representable
- be able to join materials together.
- be able to follow a rhythm
- move their body in different ways and directions
- sing a variety of nursery rhymes and songs
- use actions to move and tell their stories
- use musical instruments to make sounds
- use their imagination and creativity

Key Vocabulary

colour names, pencil, pen, paint, paper, brush, mark, water, scissors, glue, cut, stick, collage, line, build, wet, dry, sticky, pattern, hard, soft, fluffy, rough, bumpy, model, play dough, thick, thin, pattern, model repeating pattern, rub, clay, fast, slow, loud, quiet, up, down, spin, move, dance, tap, shake,