



# Skills Progression for Art and Design

"You are young, you are precious, you are loved."

St John Bosco

*OLC learners know it, show it, think it, prove it.*

Early Years Framework 2025	National Curriculum 2014	
	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>  <b>ELG: Creating with Materials</b>  <i>Children at the expected level of development will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.</li> <li>Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.</li> <li>Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils should be taught:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products</li> <li>to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination</li> <li>to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space</li> <li>about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practises and disciplines, and making links to their own work.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils should be taught to develop their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design.</li> <li>Pupils should be taught:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas</li> <li>to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay</li> <li>about great artists, architects and designers in history</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Big idea	Concept/Aspect	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6			
Humankind	Human form	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Use a variety of marks to represent the human form, from observation, imagination or memory. Covered	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Represent different parts of the human body from observation, imagination or memory with attention to some detail. Covered x 9	Skill Represent the human face, using drawing, painting, sculpture or collage from observation, imagination or memory with some attention to facial features. Covered x 5	Skill Represent the human form, including face and features, from observation, imagination or memory. Covered x 5	Skill Draw, paint or sculpt a human figure in a variety of poses, using a range of materials, such as pencil, charcoal, paint and clay. Covered x 3	Skill Explore and develop three-dimensional art that uses the human form, using ideas from contemporary or historical starting points. Covered x 3	Skill Explore and create expression in portraiture. Covered x 3	Skill Use distortion, abstraction and exaggeration to create interesting effects in portraiture or figure drawing. Covered x 3			
		Creativity	Creation	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Use a range of media, tools and techniques to create images, express ideas and show different emotions. Covered x 2	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Create art in different ways on a theme, to express their ideas and feelings. Covered x 20	Skill Design and make art to express ideas. Covered x 2	Skill Select the best materials and techniques to develop an idea. Covered x 2	Skill Use and combine a range of visual elements in artwork. Covered x 13	Skill Develop techniques through experimentation to create different types of art. Covered x 13	Skill Produce creative work on a theme, developing ideas through a range of preliminary sketches or models. Covered x 6	Skill Create innovative art that has personal, historic or conceptual meaning. Covered x 6	
				Generation of ideas	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Talk about and represent ideas, sounds, movement and emotions through their creations. Covered	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Communicate their ideas as they are creating artwork. Covered x 8	Skill Communicate their ideas simply before creating artwork. Covered x 3	Skill Make simple sketches to explore and develop ideas. Covered x 3	Skill Use preliminary sketches in a sketchbook to communicate an idea or experiment with a technique. Covered x 4	Skill Create a series of sketches over time to develop ideas on a theme or mastery of a technique. Covered x 4	Skill Review and revisit ideas and sketches to improve and develop ideas. Covered x 6	Skill Gather, record and develop information from a range of sources to create a mood board, montage or annotated sketch to inform their thinking about a piece of art. Covered x 6
					Evaluation	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Say what they like or dislike about their work. Covered x 6	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Share their creations with others, explaining their intentions and the techniques and tools they used. Covered x 6	Skill Say what they like about their own or others' work using simple artistic vocabulary. Covered x 5	Skill Analyse and evaluate their own and others' work using artistic vocabulary. Covered x 5	Skill Make suggestions for ways to adapt and improve a piece of artwork. Covered x 11	Skill Give constructive feedback to others about ways to improve a piece of artwork. Covered x 11	Skill Compare and comment on the ideas, methods and approaches in their own and others' work. Covered x 6
Materials	Malleable materials	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Explore ways of changing the shape or texture of malleable materials. Covered x 2	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Manipulate malleable materials into a variety of shapes and forms using their hands and other simple tools. Covered x 53	Skill Manipulate malleable materials by squeezing, pinching, pulling, pressing, rolling, modelling, flattening, poking, squashing and smoothing. Covered x 3	Skill Press objects into a malleable material to make textures, patterns and imprints. Covered x 3	Skill Create a 3-D form using malleable or rigid materials, or a combination of materials. Covered x 7	Skill Use clay to create a detailed or experimental 3-D form. Covered x 7	Skill Create a relief form using a range of tools, techniques and materials. Covered x 2	Skill Create a 3-D form using malleable materials in the style of a significant artist, architect or designer. Covered x 2			
		Paper, fabric, metal and plastic	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Use a variety of paper and fabric to make images. Covered	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Cut, tear, fold and stick a range of papers and fabrics. Covered x 11	Skill Manipulate paper and card to create a simple form by cutting, layering and overlapping. Covered x 2	Skill Use textural materials, including paper and fabric, to create a simple collage. Covered x 4	Skill Create a range of forms, shapes and textures using the properties of different types of paper and other materials. Covered x 3	Skill Weave natural or human-made materials on cardboard looms, making woven pictures or patterns. Covered x 2	Skill Use a range of stitches to add detail and texture to fabric or mixed-media collages. Covered x 2	Skill Make and use paper to explore traditional crafting techniques. Covered x 2	Skill Combine the qualities of different materials including paper, fabric and print techniques to create textural effects. Covered x 2	
				Skill Manipulate paper and card to create a simple form by cutting, layering and overlapping.								

<b>Paint and colour</b>	<p><b>AOL: Exp A&amp;D</b></p> <p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Explore colour and application of paint using a range of different tools.</p> <p><b>Covered x 4</b></p>	<p><b>AOL: Exp A&amp;D</b></p> <p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Use primary and other coloured paint and a range of methods of application.</p> <p><b>Covered x 18</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Identify and use paints in the primary and secondary colours.</p> <p><b>Covered x 8</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Name and mix secondary colours.</p> <p><b>Covered x 6</b></p> <p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Make, describe and use a range of hues.</p> <p><b>Covered x 6</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Identify, mix and use contrasting coloured paints.</p> <p><b>Covered x 7</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Identify, mix and use warm and cool paint colours to evoke warmth or coolness in a painting.</p> <p><b>Covered x 7</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Mix and use tints and shades of colours using a range of different materials, including paint.</p> <p><b>Covered x 5</b></p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Use knowledge of colour and colour theory to create art.</p> <p><b>Covered x 5</b></p>
<b>Printing</b>	<p><b>AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&amp;D</b></p> <p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Make simple prints using fingers, hands, feet and found objects.</p>	<p><b>AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&amp;D</b></p> <p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Make simple prints using a variety of tools, including print blocks and rollers.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Make simple prints and patterns using a range of liquids including ink and paint.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Use the properties of various materials, such as clay or polystyrene, to develop a block print.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Make a two-colour print.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Combine a variety of printmaking techniques and materials to create a print on a theme.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Add text or printed materials to a photographic background.</p>	<p><b>Skill</b></p> <p>Use the work of a significant printmaker or printmaking technique to influence artwork.</p>
<b>Pencil, ink, charcoal and pen</b>	<p>Make continuous lines and closed shapes using drawing materials to represent their ideas and make patterns.</p> <p><b>Covered</b></p>	<p>Select appropriate tools and media to draw with.</p> <p><b>Covered x 14</b></p>	<p>Use soft and hard pencils to create different types of line and shape.</p> <p><b>Covered x 3</b></p>	<p>Use the properties of pencil, ink and charcoal to create different patterns, textures and lines, and explore shape, form and space.</p> <p><b>Covered x 2</b></p>	<p>Add tone to a drawing by using linear and cross-hatching, scumbling and stippling.</p> <p><b>Covered x 2</b></p>	<p>Use the properties of pen, ink and charcoal to create a range of effects in drawing.</p> <p><b>Covered x 2</b></p>	<p>Use pen and ink, chalk and charcoal to add perspective, light and shade to a composition or model.</p> <p><b>Covered x 5</b></p>	<p>Use line, tone or shape to draw observational detail or perspective.</p> <p><b>Covered x 5</b></p>

Big idea	Concept/Aspect	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Nature	Natural art	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Explore natural materials and loose parts to make patterns and images.	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Use natural materials and loose parts to make 2-D and 3-D art. Covered x 14	Skill Make transient art and pattern work using a range or combination of human-made and natural materials. Covered x 6	Skill Draw, paint and sculpt natural forms from observation, imagination and memory. Covered x 5	Skill Use nature and natural forms as a starting point for artwork. Covered x 2	Skill Represent the detailed patterns found in natural phenomena, such as water, weather or animal skins. Covered x 2	Skill Record and edit natural forms, animals and landscapes with clarity, using digital photography and graphics software. Covered x 5	Skill Create art inspired by or giving an environmental message. Covered x 5
Place and space	Landscapes	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Create pictures of places from imagination or experience. Covered	AOL: PD AOL: Exp A&D Skill Draw or paint a place from observation or imagination. Covered x 5	Skill Draw or paint a place from memory, imagination or observation. Covered x 4	Skill Draw or paint features of landscape or seascape from memory, imagination or observation, with some attention to detail. Covered x 3	Skill Draw, collage, paint or photograph an urban landscape. Covered x 2	Skill Choose an interesting or unusual perspective or viewpoint for a landscape. Covered x 2	Skill Use a range of materials to create imaginative and fantasy landscapes. Covered x 2	Skill Create landscape art with or without typical perspective. Covered x 2 Skill Create landscape art without typical perspective. Covered x 2
Comparison	Compare and contrast	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Say how their artwork is the same or different to someone else's.	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Discuss similarities and differences in their own and others' work, linked to visual elements, such as colour, scale, subject matter, composition and type. Covered x 2	Skill Identify similarities and differences between two or more pieces of art. Covered x 5 Skill Identify and compare different textures. Covered x 5	Skill Describe similarities and differences between artwork on a common theme. Covered x 6	Skill Compare artists, architects and designers and identify significant characteristics of the same style of artwork, structures and products through time. Covered x 8	Skill Compare and contrast artwork from different times and cultures. Covered x 8	Skill Describe and discuss how different artists and cultures have used a range of visual elements in their work. Covered x 6	Skill Compare and contrast artists' use of perspective, abstraction, figurative and conceptual art. Covered x 6
Significance	Significant people, artwork and movements	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Explore and talk about pictures of famous artwork as they paint and draw. Covered	AOL: Exp A&D Skill Explore artwork by famous artists and talk about their likes and dislikes. Covered x 4	Skill Describe and explore the work of a significant artist. Covered x 2	Skill Explain why a painting, piece of artwork, body of work or artist is important. Covered x 2	Skill Work in the style of a significant artist, architect, culture or designer. Covered x 3	Skill Explain the significance of art, architecture or design from history and create work inspired by it. Covered x 3	Skill Investigate and develop artwork using the characteristics of an artistic movement or methodology or genre. Covered x 7	Skill Explain the significance of different artworks and artists from a range of times and cultures and use elements of these to create their own artworks. Covered x 7

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