



Prerequisite Skills for Art within the National Curriculum

Art			
Three and Four Year Olds	Physical Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks. • Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. • Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors. • Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.
	Expressive Arts and Design		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. • Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. • Join different materials and explore different textures. • Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. • Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. • Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. • Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear, etc. • Explore colour and colour mixing.
Reception	Physical Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. • Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor. • Develop overall body-strength, balance, coordination and agility.
	Expressive Arts and Design		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. • Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. • Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.
ELG	Physical Development	Fine Motor Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases. • Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery. • Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.
	Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. • Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.