



The Cornwall Independent School

British Values and SMSC in Art



British Values

At The Cornwall Independent School, fostering mutual respect, understanding and a strong sense of community is central to school life. We recognise that modern Britain is made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences, and we prepare our pupils to live and contribute positively within this diverse society. British Values support the development of respectful, responsible and tolerant citizens who appreciate the rights, freedoms and viewpoints of others. The Cornwall Independent School is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and protected from intimidation, extremism, radicalisation, or any influence that seeks to undermine their wellbeing, personal development or the values of a democratic society.

The Art and Design curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to explore and develop an understanding of British values through their creative experiences. Pupils are encouraged to express their ideas freely, listen to and respect different viewpoints, and appreciate the diverse cultures and artistic traditions of others. Through collaborative work, discussion and peer feedback, pupils develop mutual respect, tolerance and an understanding of individual perspectives. Clear expectations around the safe and responsible use of materials also help pupils understand the importance of rules and taking responsibility for themselves and others.

Democracy	We aim to create a warm, inclusive and supportive environment where every pupil feels confident to express themselves, share their ideas and explore their experiences of the world around them. Pupils are encouraged to be curious, open-minded and respectful, recognising that everyone's experiences and perspectives are valued equally. Through exploring the work of artists, craftspeople, designers and photographers from a wide range of backgrounds, pupils are encouraged to ask questions, share their own responses and appreciate different viewpoints. This helps to create a positive learning environment where everyone feels valued, understands their rights and responsibilities, and is encouraged to celebrate both their own individuality and that of others.
The Rule of Law	Within the classroom, clear and consistent routines help to create a happy, safe and welcoming environment where pupils feel comfortable to explore, experiment, create and learn. Pupils are taught the importance of health and safety and encouraged to take responsibility for themselves, their classmates and the creative space around them. This helps pupils to develop confidence, independence and respect for others, which is reflected in the positive and considerate way they conduct themselves within the classroom.
Individual Liberty	The Art Department promotes positive, respectful relationships where every student feels valued, listened to and included. Pupils are encouraged to respect their own rights and those of others, developing empathy and understanding through exploring the experiences and creative work of people from different backgrounds. These values are reflected in the kind and thoughtful way pupils interact with their peers and teachers.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs	Department routines and school systems are consistently followed, creating a supportive environment where both pupils and staff feel valued, listened to and respected.
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Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education

At The Cornwall Independent School, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education is at the heart of our values and ethos. We believe in nurturing the whole child and encouraging every pupil to develop respect for themselves, others and the world around them. Through our commitment to kindness, empathy, integrity and responsibility, we foster a supportive and inclusive community where everyone feels valued and empowered to thrive.

We encourage pupils to embrace diversity, demonstrate tolerance, build resilience and reflect on their experiences and actions. By promoting these qualities, we help our young people become confident, compassionate and active citizens who are well prepared for life in modern Britain and able to make positive progress in every aspect of their learning and personal development.

The Art curriculum provides a valuable insight into a range of SMSC. Through the study of techniques such as zentangle patterns, pupils learn how art can have a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing. To further support this, pupils are regularly exposed to a range of artists from different cultures to support tolerance and mutual respect. Through the study of different objects, pupils discuss and debate the importance of cultural and religious identity. For examples, in Year 9, pupils cover the Day of the Dead to give them the opportunity to appreciate a range of cultures and how this can influence modern day art.

Spiritual	Students' spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of life's fundamental questions. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and non-material wellbeing	Pupils develop their knowledge and skills through the formal elements of art, building on their learning each year. This allows students to recognise their progress, develop confidence and increasingly communicate their ideas and experiences through visual art At Secondary level pupils are encouraged to explore their own identity and develop an individual creative voice. They are supported to experiment with different processes, take creative risks and reflect on both their successes and challenges. Pupils are encouraged to trust their own judgement, celebrate their individuality and feel confident in expressing themselves while respecting and appreciating the differences of others.
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Moral	Students' moral development involves students acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. They are able and willing to reflect on the consequences of their actions and learn how to forgive themselves and others. They develop the knowledge, skills and understanding, qualities and attitudes they need in order to make responsible moral decisions and act on them.	Pupils are encouraged to explore and understand visual language, developing the confidence to form, express and explain their own opinions and ideas. Through discussing their own work and the work of others, pupils consider different viewpoints and explore how art can raise questions about values, choices and experiences. They are encouraged to respond thoughtfully and respectfully through discussion, writing and their own creative work.
Social	Students' social development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and communities (local, national and global), and an ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. They display a sense of belonging and an increasing willingness to participate. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to make an active contribution to the democratic process in each of their communities.	Pupils work collaboratively, in small groups and independently throughout year. This helps them develop communication and teamwork skills, while building confidence and a strong sense of belonging. They have opportunities to share and celebrate their creative achievements through displays within the school, allowing their work to be enjoyed by the wider school community, including family and friends. Peer feedback is also an important part of the assessment process, encouraging pupils to support one another, share ideas and develop respect and confidence in responding to each other's work.
Cultural	Students' cultural development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and an ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. They acquire a respect for their own culture and that of others, an interest in others' ways of doing things and curiosity about differences. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate and contribute to culture.	The Art and Design curriculum provides pupils with opportunities to experience and engage with a rich and diverse range of art and culture. Pupils can explore new ideas, perspectives and creative approaches, broadening their understanding and appreciation of art and the world around them.

