

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Visual Arts Policy

Rationale

At St Francis Xavier Primary School we aim to develop students' perceptual and conceptual understanding, critical thinking, and practical skills within the Visual Arts while allowing students to communicate, challenge, and express their own ideas in creating their own artwork. We emphasise their understanding of the roles of artists, craftspeople, and designers in society and the significance of the creative arts within our world.

We offer students experiences in a range of art methods including drawing, painting, collage, threads and textiles, printmaking, 2D and 3D construction and modelling. The students work through a process from developing ideas, planning, designing and then complete the process of creating and making their artwork. This is then followed by displaying their artwork either throughout the school in various installations or as part of the SFX Art Show held every two years. Students will develop an appreciation of the Visual Arts by exploring the styles and techniques of artists both locally and globally and use this as inspiration for their own artwork. Art surrounds us every day, appreciating and experiencing it in our life is a part of a balanced education.

Purpose:

At St Francis Xavier, we aim to ensure that:

- Students will experience drawing, painting, collage, threads and textiles, printmaking, 2D and 3D construction and modelling over a two yearly period
- Students are taught the processes and skills used to complete a task.
- Every student has access to being successful in the art making process
- Students follow and incorporate their own creative ideas and thoughts with explicitly taught skills to carry out a project.
- Students feel confident and safe in the Visual Art Room environment to offer and accept constructive criticism and feedback.
- Students respect the equipment, each other and themselves in the art making process.
- Students respect the differences and variations in the way we might complete the same project.
- Students work together and as a part of a team in some situations.
- Students' creativity is nurtured within the Visual Art classroom.
- Students are involved in wider community projects where opportunities arise.
- Students observe art around them in many different scenarios i.e. YouTube, laneways, art galleries, graffiti, art installations.

Implementation:

At St Francis Xavier Primary School:

- Foundation classes will receive a 40-minute Visual Arts lesson each week.
- Year 1- 6 students will complete 80 minutes of Visual Art per fortnight.
- Students will be taught lessons based on the content of the Victorian Curriculum.
- Over a two yearly period, lessons will cover the following visual art methods; drawing, painting, collage, threads and textiles, printmaking, 2D and 3D construction and modelling.
- Students will take part in a whole school collaborative art project based on our yearly school theme.
- Students will be exposed to a range of artworks and various artists from a variety of social and cultural contexts including styles from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
- In addition to creating artworks, students will respond to and make connections with art pieces through group discussion.
- Some activities will be based on cooperation, sharing ideas, communication and developing ideas.
- Assessment is done individually by viewing, photographing work, assessment rubrics (Years 3-6) and anecdotal records.
- Assessment records are used for reporting and also for forward planning of new units of work and developing new areas to be built on.
- Each term, student work is shared with their family through Seesaw.
- Reports are written twice yearly based on the students' learning.
- The Visual Art Budget caters for all new art materials and replenishment of resources that we use during Visual Arts lessons throughout the year as well as any items needed for the Art Show which is held every two years.
- As part of a 2-year cycle, the Visual Arts teacher will lead and organise a Visual Arts Exhibition to showcase the students' Artworks.
- The Visual Arts room consists of wet and dry working areas, seating space, ample storage for new and recycled materials.

Evaluation:

This policy will be revisited every odd year (e.g. 2025, 2027), reviewed as part of the school's review cycle or as changes are made to the Victorian curriculum.