Intention- What we want to achieve and why we do what we do

At Rachel Madocks Art is not only an opportunity for students to explore mark-making but a time for them to freely explore different artistic processes and express themselves through different media. We feel that it is not the end product which needs to be given the time and emphasis to our teaching and learning but the actual 'journey' that the student experiences on the way and what captures their imagination to explore and express further.

It is also important to recognise that Art serves a significant importance to all of our students' development as it provides another platform for them to focus on their Communication, Cognition, Social & Emotional and Physical skills. For some students who have difficulties in communicating their wants and feelings Art can give them the means and tools to express these and give others an insight into their mind.

Implementation - How do we achieve this through our learning and curriculum and how we do it

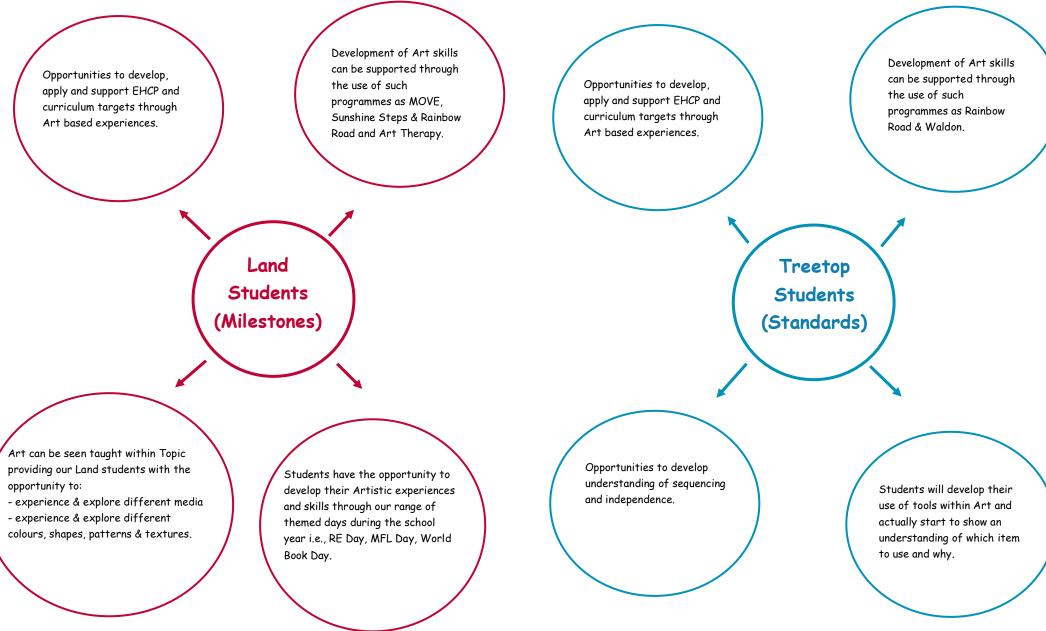
At Rachel Madocks the teaching and learning of Art will look very individualised according to the needs of the class and each student themselves. When looking at our Primary & Secondary Department it is taught with the Topic as the driving vehicle for the focus. Where as when moving up through the Senior Department Art can be seen supporting and enhancing learning within such subjects as English, Science, Geography. In our Post-16 Department students are provided with the opportunity to develop their skills through a number of 'Towards Independence' Units i.e., Craft Making, Multi-Sensory Experiences, Printing. Art is completely hands-on allowing the students to have first-hand experiences to explore different media, colour, shape and various techniques.

Teachers are skilled in adapting the activities to ensure even our most complex of learners can access the resources and have a sense of achievement. A number of mulitsensory approaches are taken; for instance, when exploring colour and colour mixing different 'smells' are added to the colours allowing students with visual impairments to make clear choices as to which colour, they would like to explore. Art also links significantly to our physical programmes of Sunshine Steps, Rainbow Road and Waldon.

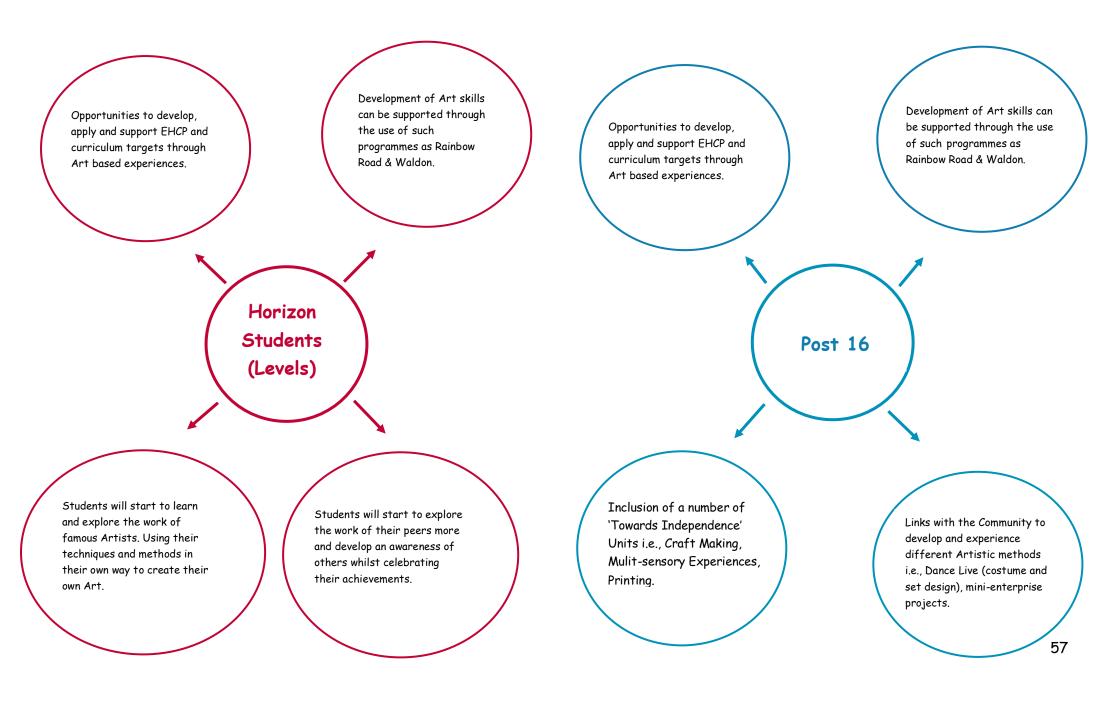
Impact - What can we achieve through this and what is the end result

Art provides our pupils with the opportunity to express themselves through different means and develop their communication skills. It allows them to learn more about the world around them by using their senses to experience colour, shape, cultures, religions etc. For all our students it gives them a platform to develop their physical needs though different techniques, for instance maintain a grasp on a paintbrush, copy shapes using their fine motor skills. Most importantly Art supports all of our pupil's general well-being which in turn allows them to become confident individual learners.

Art Curriculum



Art Curriculum



How Art Links to Other Areas



Topic



Theme Days





Theme Days at Rachel Madocks include an opportunity for pupils to explore Artistic skills by focusing on different cultures, traditions, religions, the past and present. For instance, on a recent 'History Day' pupils explored using chosen media to make their own 'Great Fire of London'. These experiences provide our students with a wealth of sensory experiences bringing a colourful world which is accessible.



Topic provides students with a

platform for them to access and

explore a rich multisensory 'Art'

world around them.

Science

Students will use all of their senses to explore colour, materials and textures. Students will also develop an understanding of how they can use their body to create Art.



Students are given another platform to make choices, communicate their wants and express their likes and dislikes using their preferred methods.



Communication

Students develop the confidence to communicate their wants, needs and importantly their feelings.



Students can explore shape and patterns through Art. Key Skills

Students can develop a range of key skills through Art. For instance, recognising & naming colours, use of tools and also knowing the result they cause through making their own marks.





Physical Development

Students develop both their gross and fine motor skills through various mark making and use of different tools.

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