

LIFE TO FEEL

INTRODUCTION

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The Harley Art Framework is a resource designed to support primary teachers. It provides developmental guidelines, ideas and activities across the 3 to 11 age range. It may also be useful to others interested and involved in art education.

The Framework is available on-line www.harleygallery.co.uk.

Each of the sections in the contents list is self-contained.

Throughout the framework the term art also encompasses craft and design.

The aims of the Framework are:

- To provide the opportunity to experience the enjoyment of making and understanding of art in its many different forms.
- To develop children's imagination, skills, knowledge and understanding through the experience of making art for its own sake and as a support for other curriculum areas
- To help children develop their personal values and opinions and to highlight the diversity and richness of human cultures

The approach is based on a simple idea:

THAT ART IS A VISUAL LANGUAGE.

It has its own equivalent of words and grammar.

In the case of art these are visual qualities. The ones being emphasised in the Harley Art Framework are:

Line, Shape; Form, Structure, Colour, Pattern, Texture, Proportion, Scale and Space.

The Art Framework is built round the two activities of **MAKING ART** and **UNDERSTANDING ART**.

Throughout the framework theory and practice go hand in hand.

Making art is developed by doing it. It offers visual and tactile experiences through which children can express and communicate their ideas, thoughts and feelings.

It's important to remember that in art there are usually many 'right' answers and it is the aim of the teacher to encourage imagination and diversity. This does not mean that all answers are equal but that evaluating them requires making qualitative judgements. It is also important to remember that much can be learnt and developed through making mistakes.

Understanding art is developed by experiencing it. It introduces children to look at, think, and talk about different forms of art.

Art is a subject in its own right and has its own body of knowledge:

- Visual qualities
- Knowledge of media, materials, tools, techniques and processes
- Mastery of unique skills
- Use of specific techniques and processes
- Familiarity with the cultural heritage of ourselves and others, both historic and contemporary

Teaching art can be approached in two ways:

- 1 As an activity in its own right
- 2 As a support activity for other curriculum areas

The ability to make and understand visual images and models, can be transferred to many other areas of the curriculum. Children will have a more positive attitude to art as a subject if they find that visual thinking, communication and making are important and used in many other subject areas.

THE HARLEY ART FRAMEWORK CONTENTS

The Framework is not prescriptive. It is best thought of as a tool, a resource of ideas and an aid to planning and understanding.

1. Guidelines and Characteristics: an overview of art and child development from Birth to 11 years
2. Understanding Art
3. Art activities 3 to 5 years
4. Drawing 5 to 11 years
5. Painting 5 to 11 years
6. Printmaking 5 to 11 years
7. Making with Materials 5 to 11 years
8. Planning and Organising
9. Starting Points
10. Photography



IN LOVING MEMORY OF PROFESSOR KEN BAYNES

Ken and his partner Krysia have worked with the Harley Gallery for many years, developing exhibitions and art activities for children of all ages. Their input has been invaluable and, they have worked tirelessly to help us offer our visitors the highest quality educational experiences, through educational resources for schools and curated exhibitions designed with children in mind. Ken was fun loving and a true inspiration. His belief in the importance of creativity in children's education and development has shaped and determined our Educational Programme.

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Please visit our website www.harleygallery.co.uk to find out more about our education programme and learning resources.

**Dayle Green, Education and Outreach Manager,
Harley Foundation, December 2020**

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THE HARLEY GALLERY

Welbeck, Worksop,
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The Harley Gallery is part of
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