

HIAS MOODLE OPEN RESOURCE

How can I adapt the art curriculum for children with specific learning needs in my art classroom?

[Art and SEN]

Jayne Stillman and Amanda Goldsmith September 2025 Final version

© Hampshire County Council

Art and SEN

Working with a small group of teachers from primary, secondary and special schools in Hampshire we focus on art and SEN needs in schools. Thank you to Amanda Goldsmith, Head of Art at Toynbee School who has created this case study to share her focus with you: How can I adapt the art curriculum for children with specific learning needs in my art classroom?

Toynbee School SEN Case Study 2024-2025



AFL



- Lots of SEN students were not engaging with written grade descriptors so the idea was to turn them visual where possible if the work was practical.
- The aim was to raise attainment, progress and awareness of AFL in Art and Design.

AFL Resources

Previous students work was photographed anonymously and added to existing grade descriptors for formally assessed pieces of practical work.

Students were encouraged to take more ownership over their outcomes and also be more reflective.

Year 8

How am I graded in Art and Design?

2 HR Drawing the figure

Advanced=A

- The positioning of the figure is more complex therefore harder to draw.
- The sections of the figure are accurately drawn and detailed.
- The tonal shading makes the figure look 3D and is neat. Any cross hatching is sensitively drawn.
- The shadow (if included) is in the right place and makes the figure look 3D.

Secure-S

- The figure is competently drawn. (It looks like the wooden figure).
- The tonal shading is competent but could be neater in some areas.

Developing=D

- The figure drawing shape and proportion is developing.
- The tonal shading is developing and could be neater.



What SKILLS am I improving in this task = Drawing, tonal shading, cross hatching

What KNOWLEDGE am I improving in this task=Scale, proportion, size, silhouette, realistic human body expectations.



AFL Resources

Students were encouraged to look at the visual examples before, during and after their own work was produced to ensure they knew how to make progress not just complete the task set.

The 'spot the difference' technique encouraged great peer discussions and higher attainment as students spent longer on the refinement of their work.

Year 8

How am I graded in Art and Design?

Drawing the figure

Advanced=A

- · The positioning of the figure is more complex therefore harder to draw.
- The sections of the figure are accurately drawn
- . The tonal shading makes the figure look 3D and is neat. Any cross hatching is sensitively
- . The shadow (if included) is in the right place and makes the figure look 3D.



Secure-S

- . The figure is competently drawn. (It looks like the wooden figure).
- . The tonal shading is competent but could be neater in some areas.



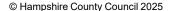
Developing=D

- · The figure drawing shape and proportion is developing.
- · The tonal shading is developing and could be



What SKILLS am I improving in this task = Drawing, tonal shading, cross hatching

What KNOWLEDGE am I improving in this task=Scale, proportion, size, silhouette, realistic human body expectations.



Modelling and Clear End Point



Modelling and having a clear end point was also a focus this year linking to the 2025 Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP) document showing different steps alongside different levels of work being inclusive for all learners.

This involved:

- Taking photographs, documenting previous students work to inspire.
- Making staff examples of differing designs not just showing the best examples from previous years.
- Documenting the making and designing process more by breaking it down and chunking information, making it more visual. (Front loading knowledge)
- Purchasing modern visualisers to support SEN students more in the moment with refinement of skills in each project.

Issues



- To cover a large SoW all Art and Design staff need to be involved in SoW planning and documenting of work.
- You need the SOW to be established for this to work to have enough student resources to be able to show a range of work.
- Resourcing PowerPoints and worksheets/AFL handouts takes time in advance to organise before the SoW project starts.
- Student examples of work need to be anonymous as grading can be a sensitive topic. (Ideally the cohort above used to inspire the next year group).
- You naturally want to show the best examples but students have different start and end
 points so they need to see their possible end point that could be lower than their peers or
 expected ability based on their age.

Adding texture in the style of Vincent Van Gogh - Student Examples









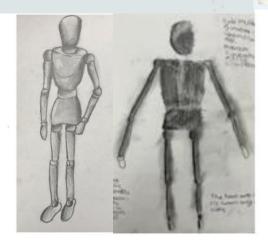


Piece?









2 Hour Activity (All Toynbee student examples from last year)

Examples of modelling and end points at KS3 to support and inspire our VI and SEN students more this year.





Reflection

- More visually impaired (VI) examples need to be added to the SOW resource bank-Small VI cohort to choose from.
- SOW if updated or changed There would be no AFL student examples of work to refer to when modelling or showcasing work, just staff examples.
- Any example given to students you don't want them to copy but be inspired by to go off and create their own unique version. Always something to be mindful of when encouraging creativity.
- · The feedback from students and Ofsted this year has been strong.
- The attainment, progress and understanding of SEN learners is increasing due to visual grading methods being introduced this academic year. EAL students are also benefitting.

Art

Jayne.Stillman@hants.gov.uk

For further details on the full range of services available please contact us using the following email: https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.com/

Upcoming Courses

Keep up-to-date with our learning opportunities for each subject through our Upcoming Course pages linked below. To browse the full catalogue of learning offers, visit our new Learning Zone. Full details of how to access the site to make a booking are provided here.

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography
- RE
- History
- Leadership
- Computing
- Art
- <u>D&T</u>
- Assessment
- Support Staff
- SEN
- TED
- MFL

Terms and conditions

Terms of licence

This resource is intended solely for personal or classroom use. By using it, you agree that you will not copy or reproduce this file except for your own personal, non-commercial use.

This document/file must be used and shared in its original form. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools (eg Copilot, Gemini, Chat GPT etc) or automated systems to alter, rewrite, translate, or otherwise modify its content is strictly prohibited without prior written permission from the original author(s) or publisher. Unauthorised use of AI in this way may result in misrepresentation, loss of context, or breach of intellectual property rights, and may lead to corrective or legal action.

HIAS reserves the right to modify these terms at any time. Any changes will take immediate effect and supersede all previous agreements.

You are welcome to:

- · download this resource
- save this resource on your computer
- print as many copies as you would like to use in your school
- amend this electronic resource so long as you acknowledge its source and do not share as your own work.

You may not:

- · claim this resource as your own
- · sell or in any way profit from this resource
- store or distribute this resource on any other website or another location where others are able to electronically retrieve it
- email this resource to anyone outside your school or transmit it in any other fashion.