

Art and Design at OJS

To ensure the safety of our pupils and staff, we have adapted some aspects of Art and Design in response to COVID 19. Physical distancing, hygiene and the sharing of resources have all been taken into account.

Each classroom is equipped with hand gel dispensers which are used on entry. Washing and sanitising hands more thoroughly and more often than usual, as well as good respiratory hygiene (“catch it - bin it - kill it”) is actively encouraged. Enhanced cleaning, including cleaning of frequently touched surfaces takes place in each room every day by cleaners and classroom staff. Tables are cleaned before and after eating lunch.

All working spaces have as much ventilation as is reasonably practical to ensure the maximum natural air supply. Windows and doors remain open during the course of the day.

Movement around the school is carefully managed with students entering and leaving their rooms at strict times and via specific routes, staggered break times have also been implemented. The locations of the doors, sinks and positioning of tables and the teachers’ table; have been considered in each classroom. Children are seated side by side, facing the front of the classroom.

Each year group is divided into two ‘Bubbles’, contact is avoided between these groups. Current DfE guidance requires that any equipment being transferred between bubbles is either cleaned or quarantined. Resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, such as art equipment are cleaned frequently and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics). Materials such as textiles are shared within a bubble, but not between different bubbles (unless quarantining has taken place). Aprons will not be used whilst painting or taking part in other messy activities. Pencils, scissors, rulers and glue, have been assigned to most pupils individually to reduce the risks of physical contact and cross-contamination.

Children’s work will be stored in labelled plastic wallets before the children’s artwork is taken home, they will be stored for 72 hours in our stock cupboards.

Staff aim to maintain a 2m social distance from all other members of staff. All staff carefully consider social distancing rules during break and lunch times and have separate areas for breaks.

Miss N Obhi

Art and Design Lead