



Art and design

Transcript for the Talking Head video – Art and design

[00:00:00] The first thing that art and design teachers should do is to familiarise themselves with the big picture of the curriculum because it's there that many of the opportunities for enriching the art and design curriculum can be found.

[00:00:12] The new curriculum... is very much more flexible and less prescriptive than I think anything we've had in the, in the past. This is really an opportunity I think to... develop a, a local response to the curriculum and I would regard the programmes of study being little more than an aide mémoire rather than a prescription, an aide mémoire to help you remember the kind of things that should be considered in constructing your own curriculum.

[00:00:41] One of the things we need to do in art and design is convince pupils, parents, senior management and others that careers in the future in art and design and the creative industries, creative industries generally... are very real opportunities.

[00:01:01] I think much of the value is in exploring the overall aims of the curriculum and seeing how art and design can contribute to that. The opportunities for enriching art and design by working with other subjects are, are huge, and I think that's really evident from the big picture of the curriculum. It's not the case however that this means that art and design must always be taught in collaboration with other subjects, there will be times when you want to plan an art and design project as a stand-alone event. But I think keeping an eye open for where the opportunities can be enhanced by working with other subjects is something we really have to do.

[00:01:40] Timetabling for art and design has always been difficult and the notion that we ask pupils to come in and be creative for 50 minutes sandwiched between mathematics and PE isn't really realistic. And I think one of opportunities of the new curriculum is the chance to think of different ways of timetabling the subject, hopefully getting larger and more effective blocks of time, occurring less frequently perhaps but even so providing that oppor-... opportunity for thought, for the incubation period that is... essential to developing creative ideas that at the moment we deny them through the drip-feed of the weekly curriculum timetable.

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[00:02:22] Part of the programmes of study that I think are really important are... is the range in content section, because there it sets out the breadth of the subject, operating across a range of art, craft and design in different contexts, in different ways, thinking about diff-... different... historical contexts and so on.

[00:02:43] ...In art and design over the recent years I think we've become rather narrow in many departments with an over-emphasis on drawing and painting. And this is a really, real opportunity to engage again with that wide spectr-..., spectrum of art, craft and design.

[00:03:00] For the first time the programmes of study include a number of key concepts and these are creativity, critical understanding, cultural understanding and competence. Creativity is a particularly interesting one because the notion of creativity permeates as curriculum it's not just art and design where you find frequent references to it. But I do think we have to think hard about it in terms of art and design because maybe the question is, whose creativity is it that we often celebrate when we look at so-called good practice in art and design? Is it really the creativity of the pupils or is it the teacher's creativity in thinking up a particularly good prescription and almost foolproof prescription for a particular piece of work? If we really want to develop pupils' creativity maybe we have to think a bit harder about how we plan and organise.

[00:03:56] The key to thinking about planning in art and design is to ask yourself three questions,... what do we want to achieve? how are we going to organise it? and how will we know when we've done it? ...If you refer to the websites you will find a planning wizard which will take you through that process... and, and help you work with your department to come to some conclusions for your school. Again it's not a national in that sense, it's finding out the right answers for your particular situation.

[00:04:28] To help your thinking there's a wide range of case studies available. There are a number that have been produced by the QCA on the QCA website, a series of case studies developed by CfBT which are on the newsecondarycurriculum.com website. And in addition to that there are 18 case studies on the NSEAD website at NSEAD.org and there again is a list of case studies which will... we will continue to expand in coming months.

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School Leadership
Secondary National Strategy
Specialist Schools and
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National
Curriculum

Working in partnership to support
delivery of the new National Curriculum
Part of the 14–19 education and skills programme