RGTS ART CURRICULUM MAP

THE JOURNEY OF AN ARTIST

KEY CONCEPTS

- **Mastery of the Formal Elements** *(Line, Tone, Colour, Texture, Pattern, Shape, Form)*
- **Observation, Recording & Representation**
- **Creative Exploration & Experimentation with Media**
- **Contextual Understanding** *(Artists, Culture & Meaning)*
- **Composition & Creating** *(Meaningful Outcomes Journey)*
- **Reflection, Evaluation & Refinement** *(Creative Journey)*

START

YEAR 7

- Use basic line, tone and shape to create simple observational drawings. Begin colour theory (colour wheel).
- Draw from observation using basic shapes and outlines (e.g. Thames Barrier baseline).
- Use basic materials (pencil, watercolour, collage) with guidance.
- Identify and describe key features of artists' work (e.g. Hundertwasser, Kusama).
- Create simple compositions linked to a theme or artist.
- Describe what they have done and identify one improvement.

YEAR 8

- Apply tone and colour with increasing control. Introduce pattern, texture and media exploration.
- Draw from observation using basic shapes and outlines (e.g. Thames Barrier baseline).
- Experiment with materials and techniques (pattern, paint, mixed media).
- Explain how artists use colour, pattern and ideas. Make simple connections.
- Consider layout, balance, and pattern in outcomes.
- Explain strengths and areas for improvement using simple vocabulary.

YEAR 9

- Combine multiple formal elements with intention (e.g. tone + colour + texture). Develop accuracy and control.
- Use tone, mark-making and layering to create realistic and expressive outcomes.
- Combine media with increasing independence (e.g. oil pastel, collage, watercolour).
- Analyse artists and apply their styles to their own work.
- Create more complex compositions combining multiple elements and ideas.
- Use feedback to refine and develop work independently.

YEAR 10

- Use formal elements fluently across a range of media to create refined studies and experiments.
- Record ideas independently using a range of techniques (drawing, photography, print).
- Explore and refine media through sustained experimentation (printmaking, mixed media).
- Develop critical understanding through artist research and personal responses.
- Develop sustained outcomes that respond to themes and artists (e.g., Everyday Objects).
- Analyse work using annotation and feedback to improve outcomes.

YEAR 11

- Manipulate formal elements deliberately to communicate meaning, mood, and personal style with confidence.
- Select and refine recording methods to support a personal investigation and final outcome.
- Confident, purposeful experimentation to develop a unique and personal response.
- Evaluate and synthesise influences to inform a personal, meaningful outcome.
- Create highly personal, refined final pieces with clear intent and meaning.
- Evaluate, refine, and justify artistic decisions with depth and independence.

DISCIPLINARY SKILLS

- How do artists use the formal elements to create meaning, realism and visual impact?
- How do artists accurately observe and record the worlds around them
- How do artists experiment with materials and processes to develop ideas?
- How do artists' work reflect ideas, cultures and contexts?
- How do artists organise elements to communicate ideas effectively?
- How do artists improve their work through reflection and feedback