

Herne Junior School

Our Sketchbook Philosophy



At the heart of the creative journey at Herne, will be the children's own Sketchbook. Sketchbooks should be owned by the pupils, and should be at the centre of each pupils' creativity.

It may in itself become an art form.

Sketchbooks will be used to gather, collect, explore and reflect.

Importantly, it should be a place where children feel safe to record their ideas and reflections, to express their creativity without direct judgement through 'marking'.

It is a place where children can record their ideas, thinking, evaluations and experimentation, as well as their individuality. We will nurture children's creativity by fostering and modelling a sense of respectfulness when children share their work with others.

Sketchbook feedback is encouraged to guide the development of specific art skills and techniques as a continuous ongoing process.

This can be given in a verbal form.

At the end of a series of lessons, a written comment (from teachers and children) can be given on a post-it note, or paper clipped to the page. We will let children create personal books where their space is not invaded by a teacher's writing.

'Mistakes', preferably termed as 'experimentation', should be valued as part of the artistic process.

Teachers will be encouraged to have their own Sketchbook as it is empowering for children to see their teachers working alongside them. Children love to see their teacher using a book in the same way they do!

Sketchbooks should be fun and enjoyable, free and individual, bursting with visual inspiration and become a visual diary of ideas and experimentation.