

## **Reviews of *Drawing is a Class Act, Years 1–2***

### **Start (magazine published by the National Society for Education in Art and Design)**

This book, the first in an award winning series, contains many examples developed through collaborative work across the number of primary schools in Devon. It became clear during this work, says Fabian, that teachers needed the guidance and encouragement of a subject specialist and this is what the book is intended to provide. It sets out the development of drawing skills from the beginning and offers guidance on progression in learning and provides ideas to support classroom activities.

It is designed to be easily accessible. Teachers can glance at a page, read the title, look at an example of pupils' work and know what to do without necessarily reading the text.

### **Judy Grahame, Consultant for Art and Design**

I think this is going to be a really useful resource for teachers. I like the format – in particular the emphasis on key skills and the way they are introduced, revisited and consolidated. Teachers lacking confidence in art and design (and that's probably the majority in primary schools) will be able to use the activities off-the-peg or adapt them to suit their needs and will decide for themselves whether to work through them sequentially or pick and choose. I think they'll also find the suggested introductions very helpful. I've never been particularly keen to promote books which simply outline lesson after lesson, but this has a clear rationale and those teachers who take the time to read the explanations (in addition to simply using the ideas) will begin to understand and appreciate the need for progressive skills teaching. It's plainly written in a way that will be accessible to most teachers. I've shown the book to a few teachers now and I've had some very positive feedback. A primary school in Greenwich where I was working yesterday will almost certainly be buying a set – so that's a start!