

Newton Primary School
Design and Technology Policy



Introduction

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of Design and Technology at Newton Primary School.

Aims

Our aim is to ensure that the children are taught the subject of Design and Technology as specified in the National Curriculum.

Design and Technology prepares pupils to participate in an ever-changing technological world by becoming discriminating, informed users and innovators of products. They learn to think creatively to improve the quality of life by looking for and responding to human needs, wants and interests. They combine their understanding of relevant and past design and technology with practical skills to design, make and evaluate their own products.

Design and Technology offers children the opportunity to:

- Develop their capability to create high quality products through combining their designing and making skills with their knowledge and understanding
- Nurture creativity and innovation
- Explore values and attitudes towards the made-world and how we live and work within it
- Develop an understanding of products and processes and their contribution to our society
- Research and explore past design and technology and use this knowledge in their own designing
- To develop an understanding of health and nutrition and how to cook. Develop an attitude that is conscious of what a healthy lifestyle is and how food contributes towards this.

Teaching and learning in Design and Technology

In Key Stages 1 and 2 Design and Technology is taught through the teaching of well-planned project based lessons using the DATA Projects on a Page scheme of work. In the Foundation stage it is taught in a very hands-on and child led way following the guidance in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. All lessons are planned and adapted to teach them in the most beneficial way ensuring that Design and technology remains the main focus of the lessons when stipulated to be so in the planning.

Key Stages 1 and 2 - Each aspect of Design and Technology is visited at least once in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. (With the exception of Electricity, this is only required to be taught in Key Stage 2 and is cross-curricular with Science.) Every class carries out three Design and Technology projects per year, one of which must be a food-based project. In Key Stage 2 children are given the opportunity to look at key events and individuals in Design and Technology that have helped shape the world.

Foundation Stage – In our Reception classes the children are given the opportunity to find out about the world they live in and the role D&T plays within it through a number of ways.

- Asking questions about how things work
- Learning about a variety of customs and cultures
- Investigating and using a number of construction kits, materials, tools and products.
- Developing making skills.

This wide range of Design and Technology experiences the children encounter in the Foundation Stage provides a good basis for future learning in Design and Technology in Key Stages 1 and 2.

Equal Opportunities

At Newton Primary School we are committed to providing a teaching and learning environment that allows all children to thrive and reach their potential. All teachers provide suitable learning opportunities for children, recognising that many children have individual needs and ensuring these needs are catered for in Design and Technology lessons. This includes providing adult support and appropriate equipment and materials to enable all children to access the Design and Technology curriculum. Teachers are aware of children who have a particular talent for Design and technology and aim to provide additional challenges for these children where appropriate.

Assessment

Pupils' D&T work may be assessed throughout the design process and by teachers judging recorded work. Teachers will also assess pupils':

- Knowledge of tools, materials and equipment.
- Ability to record and communicate their design ideas in a clear manner.
- Personal qualities and attitudes towards their work.
- Ability to explain what they have created and how.
- Ability to use tools and materials safely and effectively.
- Ability to evaluate their work and the work of others.

The majority of assessments will be conducted through observations and discussion. Assessments will be recorded in the end of year reports to parents. A selection of work may be retained as evidence or photographed for this purpose.

Resources

The school has a selection of centrally stored materials, tools and equipment to ensure that all pupils have access to the necessary resources. The D&T budget covers the cost of materials and replacement tools. Teachers will be required to maintain the tools and equipment in their room.

Pupils may occasionally be asked to bring materials from home if they can; however, to allow all pupils the same opportunities, pupils that are unable to do this will be provided for.

Health and Safety

The safety of the children is the responsibility of the class teacher. All staff must complete a risk assessment on materials being used/lessons being taught. All staff take part in Health and Safety meetings and are aware of how risk assessing is carried out and the school's policy on this.

Role of the Subject Co-ordinator

- To lead the development of Design and Technology in the school
- To provide guidance on the teaching and learning of design and Technology in school
- Order, organise and maintain Design and Technology resources
- Monitor the development of the Design and Technology curriculum and give guidance on assessment, recording and reporting
- Keep up to date with local and national developments in Design and Technology.

Monitoring the Effectiveness of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years. The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed by the subject lead, the Headteacher and the nominated governor and necessary recommendations for improvement will be made to the Governors.

Headteacher

Chair of Governing Body

Date: September 2021