

St Laurence Church Infant School

Design and Technology Policy



Approved by: Curriculum, Safeguarding and
Pupil Welfare Committee

Last revised on: March 2020

Next review due by: March 2023

ST LAURENCE CHURCH INFANT SCHOOL

DT Policy

Intent

Why do we teach Design Technology?

At St Laurence Church Infant School we want our children to use their creativity and imagination to make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. We want the children to know how products are made and used so they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world.

We want to develop our children's knowledge and understanding of DT to help them to be confident to take risks, become resourceful, innovative and enterprising citizens that can contribute to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation. We want our children to develop their understanding of food, where it comes from and how it can be combined so that they enjoy healthy eating and understand how it contributes to a healthy lifestyle.

We want the children to foster a sense of responsibility about the impact DT can have on God's and their World.

Implementation

How we teach Design Technology

We use a range of teaching and learning styles to deliver the DT curriculum. We teach either termly or half termly learning themes that incorporate DT skills. Through practical, hands-on lessons we give children the opportunity to embed learning. Children work in mixed ability groups that allow for exploration and discussion. Teachers aim to provide a range of inspiring, rigorous and practical learning opportunities including ICT, to allow the children to develop DT skills and vocabulary. We also embed DT learning by drawing on other disciplines such as Mathematics, Science, Engineering, Computing and Art, forest school, and special events that may occur during the school year.

How we teach DT in EYFS

In EYFS DT is taught through Expressive Arts and Design but it is an integral part of all aspects of the EYFS curriculum.

How we teach DT in KS1

DT is taught in blocks and fits within a wider learning theme. It is flexible depending on what is being taught. Children will have the opportunity to design and make purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and others. In Year One Children are taught how to make biscuits to raise money for charity and then in Year Two they design and make a healthy pasta salad for the school's menu. This is linked to their trip to Cadburys and their ethos of healthy living. In Year One the children build small structures and look at how they can be strengthened linking in with Science and the way materials can be waterproofed. In Year Two they progress on to designing and building a model castle that includes simple mechanisms including pulleys and hinges. Both year groups have opportunities to use textiles culminating in Year Two's exploring, designing and making a Christmas decoration for a member of their family.

How we ensure all children access the DT curriculum

At St Laurence Church Infant School all children access the DT curriculum regardless of ability. This is achieved by carefully planned lessons and a range of learning opportunities.

How we assess DT

Teachers assess how the children learn through observations during lessons. Teachers use questioning skills to extend learning and give children the opportunity to expand their understanding through practical activities. Children get immediate feedback during the lesson time and steps to move their learning forward. Teachers encourage children to make links across the curriculum and allow them to demonstrate their knowledge of DT at any time. Teachers use this knowledge to assess progress against the DT National curriculum.

How is the teaching and learning of DT monitored?

The subject lead has regular discussions with class teachers about the delivery of DT curriculum. The subjects Lead provides support with lesson planning and monitors books. These discussions allow planning to be updated, modified and improved according to best fit the children. The subject lead is in the process of updating the resources and organising them. (April 2020) The subject lead also aims to be aware of any new changes to the curriculum so they can make the appropriate changes.

Impact

Children at St Laurence Church Infants will develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.

The children will build and apply a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high-quality prototypes and products for a wide range of users

They will have critiqued, evaluated and tested their ideas and products and the work of others

The children will understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook

Equal Opportunities

All staff are aware of the Birmingham Policy for Equal Opportunities and we have our own school policy. We actively seek to ensure that no child is disadvantaged because of background, language, disability, race or gender.

Results are scrutinized to ensure that any child who appears to be disadvantaged is given appropriate opportunities to redress this.

Resources

Resources for DT are held within individual classes, across year groups and in a central resource area (Lower stock cupboard next to Deputy Head's office.)

Individual classroom resources are checked on a regular basis and staff are regularly asked about their resource needs.

Review

This Policy will be reviewed within the next 3 years or before if there are changes to the Design Technology curriculum.

Date of policy May 2020

Date of review May 2023

DT Co-ordinator Penny Meara