



# Design Technology at Downview



## Intent:

At Downview Primary design and technology is fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to: fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for design technology, provide a broad and balanced curriculum, ensure the progressive development of knowledge and skills, enable children to develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world. We aim to build a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to make high-quality prototypes for a wide range of users. To be able to critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others and to understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

Design technology teaching at Downview Primary instils an appreciation and enjoyment of technology and design. Design stimulates imagination and creativity; involving children in a range of visual, tactile and sensory experiences, which enable them to communicate what they see, think and feel through the use of the elements of technology and design which enables them to explore the impact it has had on contemporary life and on different periods and cultures.

The aims of teaching design technology in our school are:

- To engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own products.
- As pupils progress through school, they should begin to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of design and technology. They should also know how design technology both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.
- To produce products exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.
- To become proficient in a repertoire of design techniques and technology.
- To evaluate and analyse design.
- To know about great designers and understand the historical and cultural development of design technology.

## **Implementation:**

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in design technology, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Design technology is taught as part of a half-termly or termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At Downview, we ensure that design technology are given the same importance as the core subjects, as we feel this is important in enabling all children to gain 'real-life' experiences.

The design technology curriculum at Downview Primary are based on the Primary National Curriculum in England. Teachers plan lessons for their class using our progression of knowledge and skills document. Teachers can use these documents to plan their design technology lessons suitable to their class interests and what they want to learn. The progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and the skills/knowledge taught is progressive from year group to year group.

When teaching design technology, teachers should follow the children's interests to ensure their learning is engaging, broad and balanced. A variety of teaching approaches are used based on the teacher's judgement.

Design technology provides excellent opportunities to enhance the learning of more able pupils through the investigations, analysing sources and creating extending products. Children showing extensive aptitude in design technology will be challenged further to explore and research in more detail.

## **Impact:**

Within Design and Technology, we strive to create a supportive and collaborative ethos for learning by providing investigative and enquiry based learning opportunities. Emphasis is placed on explorative learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge of understanding of each unit of work covered throughout the school.

Our Design and Technology curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. We focus on progression of knowledge and skills and vocabulary progression also form part of the units of work. We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Assessing children's understanding of topic linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Images of the children's practical learning.
- Interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice).
- Moderation staff meetings where pupil's books are scrutinised where there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers around process to product.
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum.
- Marking and verbal feedback about work in books.