



Caldecote Primary School
Design & Technology Policy
May 2020

What is DT?

Design & Technology surrounds us in every aspect of our lives, be it at home, school, recreation or leisure. 'Design' is where art meets the real world and 'technology' is the equipment used to realise the design. In the context of Caldecote Primary School, the term "Design Technology" encompasses Design and Realisation of objects including textiles and, food technology.. It is the process of designing, making and evaluating products for a purpose or improving, refining and extending the use of existing products.

Aims

The national curriculum for design and technology aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world
- 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
- Critique, evaluate and test their ideas and produces and the work of others
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook

Principles of the Teaching and Learning of DT

DT is important because:

- It provides the children with practical, problem solving skills;
- It provides a basis for understanding our world (how items are made, resourced, the importance of technology);
- Its links to other curriculum subjects, particularly maths, science and art.
- Values and extends pupils who have a more practical focus.
- It is another opportunity where children can learn to see the value of learning from mistakes, in a safe environment, where emphasis is put on the process of design/make/review rather than the end result.
- The design and construction of products can provide pleasure and fulfilment and makes children aware of career opportunities in the creative industries.
- Teaches basic principles of a healthy and varied diet
- Investigative, Disassembly and Evaluative Activities (IDEAS)
- Focused Practical Tasks (FPT)
- Design and Make Assignment (DMA)

DT is a foundation subject in the national curriculum. There are three key elements:

- Investigative, disassembly and evaluation activities
- Focused practical tasks
- Design and make assignments

DT is studied throughout the year in conjunction with art; children will learn art and/or D&T during the weekly timetabled slot. It is taught by classroom teachers.:

- In the classroom by supporting individual and group activities;
- With finding and preparing suitable resources;
- On outings and visits;
- By providing extra help for children with particular needs.

Health and safety is considered in the teaching and learning of DT. Classroom teachers will instruct children how to use resources safely. Where necessary, they will ask for additional adult helpers to support the children in their learning. If appropriate, classroom teachers will plan for teaching assistants/adult helpers to work with small groups.

All children's DT is celebrated in display and presentation including:

- Displays of the results of children's efforts;

Strategies for Ensuring Progress and Continuity

Curriculum coverage and progression is monitored as part of the whole school's Monitoring and Assessment programme. The subject leader, overseen by the Deputy Headteacher, is responsible for ensuring that planned learning opportunities are inclusive.

Progression and continuity are also achieved through:

1.1 Feedback to Pupils

A pupil's progression is achieved through the teacher assessing or giving verbal feedback to the pupil. The teacher will decide on the most appropriate method. It will reflect the child's age and individual needs.

1.2 Formative Assessment

Formative assessment is mostly carried out informally by teachers in the course of their teaching and marking. It can also include topic assessment tasks, for example:

- Small group discussion
- Individual discussions between teacher and pupil

1.3 Recording and Reporting

Children self-evaluate their performance at the end of a unit, in the DMA section. This self-evaluation will be guided by the teachers' input throughout the unit.

Attainment and effort in DT and art is reported to parents via the Annual Report. For attainment they will either be assessed as WT (Working Towards), WA (Working At) or GD (Greater Depth).

DT Subject Leader

The role of the DT Subject Leader is to:

- Take the lead in policy development;
- Support colleagues in their development and assessment of DT units of work;
- Keep up to date with developments in DT education and disseminate information to colleagues as appropriate.

Policy Review

The Policy statement will be reviewed in line with the rolling programme of Policy reviews.

Headteacher: **Date:**

Chair of Governors: **Date:**