



Be Brave Curriculum

INTENT – IMPLEMENTATION – IMPACT

Subject: Design Technology

INTENT

Our DT provision is structured to ensure comprehensive coverage of the requirements of the National Curriculum. Inspired by our school vision (Joshua 1:9), we adopt a Be Brave approach, where children are encouraged to take risks and challenge themselves, knowing that God is with us at all times.

Within Design Technology teaching there is the intention that children will gain an appreciation of the design processes used within a variety of disciplines such as architecture, cookery and textiles. They will also gain understanding of the mechanical processes and techniques that can be utilised within design, along with the corresponding vocabulary to enable them to discuss how things work and how products might be improved. Children will be offered an opportunity to explore and express their own interests and experiences, in order to make the design process meaningful to them. They will develop competence at controlling a variety of materials and tools, and gain understanding of the importance of testing their ideas and developing prototypes, allowing them to refine and improve their initial products. Our intention is that children will develop an appreciation of the relationship between a product and its intended user, and an ability to explain how the two can influence one another. They will be offered opportunities for reflection concerning their own creations, allowing them to develop increasingly sophisticated abilities to offer informed critical responses and ideas for improvement.

IMPLEMENTATION

A comprehensive DT programme of study has been developed throughout the key stages, ensuring that children learn a progression of skills, in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum. The units taught can be amended by class teachers to enable differentiation and adaptation to the needs of their particular cohort. DT lessons are generally taught in discrete blocks, allowing children time to immerse themselves in a project, while also mastering any practical skills required.

Children are taught to work using the 'Design, Create, Evaluate' cycle. Each stage is rooted within technical knowledge, whether this relates to physical mechanisms, cooking methods or the merits and drawbacks of working with particular tools, materials and equipment. While projects generally have a specific 'end goal', emphasis is also placed on incorporating children's own ideas into the design process at any opportunity. Children are offered technical explanations and demonstrations, along with subject-specific vocabulary to enable them to express their thoughts and ideas. Time is taken to ensure that children have an appreciation of the potential risks of working with different tools and materials and are able to manage these risks successfully to create products in a safe, hygienic way. Being an environmentally conscious school, children are encouraged to create products in a responsible fashion, ensuring that finite resources are used considerately.

The school's Lead Teacher for DT organises an annual whole school event, encouraging children across all year groups to work together on DT projects with a common theme. 'Buzz Points' like these allow children to experience a shared vision and the sense of belonging and cohesion that DT can bring to any community.

IMPACT

Progress within DT is not formally measured on an individual level, but use of Target Tracker's attainment statements for each year group allows staff to ensure that children are reaching levels of attainment expected for their age.

The biggest measure of the impact of our teaching will be our confidence that we are sending children off at the end of their Primary School journey with a diverse range of DT skills and knowledge and a passion for creativity and innovation in its many forms.

Our children will be secure in their own ability to create a broad range of DT projects, and confident in the knowledge that everything they create is meaningful and valid, with the potential to bring joy to themselves and others. The impact of our DT teaching will be a legacy of children who possess initiative and innovation skills, alongside a drive to continue developing their creativity as part of a lifelong journey.