

Design Technology Policy

Introduction

Design and technology prepares children to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world. Creative thinking encourages children to make positive changes to their quality of life. The subject encourages children to become autonomous and creative problem-solvers, both as individuals and as part of a team. It enables them to identify needs and opportunities and to respond by developing ideas and eventually making products and systems. Through the study of design and technology they combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, social and environmental issues, as well as functions and industrial practices. This allows them to reflect on and evaluate present and past design and technology, its uses and its impacts. Design and technology helps all children to become discriminating and informed consumers and potential innovators.

Aims

In addition to the school aims, in Design Technology we aim to provide opportunities for the children to:

- develop imaginative thinking and to enable them to talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making
- talk about how things work, and to draw and model their ideas;
- select appropriate tools and techniques for making a product, whilst following safe procedures;
- explore attitudes towards the made world and how we live and work within it;
- develop an understanding of technological processes, products, and their manufacture, and their contribution to our society;
- foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making.
- develop curiosity about changes and events in the world
- ask questions, suggest ways to answer them and to try out their ideas

Approach

We, at Hayeswood, seek to place Design Technology into meaningful contexts so that learning is purposeful and motivating. Wherever possible Design Technology is linked to other subjects.

Design Technology is usually taught through topics and cross curricular links are made where possible, though it can also be taught discretely on a weekly basis.

Content

Objectives for Design Technology are taken from the statutory guidelines for Design Technology in the National Curriculum. 'Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils should be taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an approach involving observation, planning, designing and making. They should work in a range of relevant contexts'. They should design, make, evaluate and develop technical knowledge.

Resources

We have a range of Design Technology resources which are stored on shelving at the back of the Y3 classroom. Teachers should plan in advance of their topic and ensure that the relevant materials are available.

Health and Safety

Children are taught how to use all types of equipment with due regard for their own and others' health and safety. Teachers will ensure that all activities are closely supervised and that the children are made aware of the dangers.

Assessment

Formative assessment of children's knowledge in Design Technology is carried out at the beginning and throughout each unit (e.g. class or individual mind maps, providing opportunities for children to suggest questions that they would like to answer) Investigative skills are assessed by observation, scrutiny of written recording and discussion with children. This is then recorded on class assessment sheets.

SEN and Equal Opportunities

All children irrespective of gender, race, religion, disability or SEN have equal access to our Design Technology programme. Where appropriate, activities are differentiated to meet children's individual needs.

The role of the Subject Co-ordinator

The subject co-ordinator for Design Technology:

- Oversees the planning and assessment of Design Technology in the school
- Is responsible for co-ordinating the writing of a policy in conjunction with other teachers
- Reviews planning and activities so that relevant modifications can be made.
- Monitors the implementation of the Scheme of Work and standards in this subject
- Is responsible for updating staff about new developments in Design Technology
- Advises colleagues on resources to aid planning and is responsible for monitoring resources

The school is committed to safeguarding and providing for the welfare of all pupils and expects its staff to share in this commitment.

Signed:

Position: Chair of Academy Committee

Written: January 2016

Reviewed: Spring 2019

Next Review: Spring 2021