



St Barnabas CE Primary School

“Preparing for a positive future, achieved through faith.”

Christian values are central to the life of our school, where we are devoted to inspire our children to succeed, flourish and live life in all its fullness.

“Let your light shine.”

Matthew 5:16

Design Technology Policy

Policy Updated:	September 2025
Date reviewed and agreed by Governors:	December 2023
Date of next review:	September 2026
Headteacher:	Miss J Hodgkinson
Chair of Governors:	Dr C Kressel

Design Technology Policy

Rationale

Design and Technology prepares children to participate in tomorrow's rapidly changing technologies. It calls for them to be creative problem solvers, as individuals and as members of a team. It is a practical activity which spans the curriculum, drawing on and linking a range of subjects. It involves developing ideas in response to needs and applying practical skills in order to design and make quality products fit for their intended purpose.

Aims

- To implement fully the requirements of the National Curriculum Design and Technology document for all children in the school.
- To develop skills by focusing on the key elements of Construction Materials, Structures, Mechanical and Electrical Systems, Food, Textiles and Computing to Program, by incorporating:-
 - focused practical tasks
 - product evaluation and investigation
 - processes of designing and making
 - use of technical knowledge
- To stimulate curiosity and interest in the modern world and future careers.
- To develop an interest and enthusiasm for designing and making for children of all abilities.
- To develop children's designing and making skills through enjoyable, motivating and purposeful activities.
- To develop children's confidence and skill in selecting and using a range of tools and materials appropriately and safely.
- To develop an ability to criticise constructively and evaluate their own ideas and products and those of others.
- To develop children's use of subject appropriate vocabulary when talking about their work

Methods of Organising Teaching and Learning

The children will undertake design and technology activities at the beginning of each term, but not necessarily as a weekly lesson. Sometimes half days or full days will be devoted to Design and Technology. Design and Technology lessons will involve a combination of whole class, group and individual teaching.

Children in the Nursery and Reception will cover a range of activities, with reference to the Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage, which will be a foundation for the National Curriculum. The children in the Foundation Stage will be encouraged to design and develop their ideas independently, using a range of resources provided in the continuous provision, as well as developing D&T for a purpose such as designing and making small worlds linked to writing topics or food preparation linked to special times and events.

The planning throughout school is based on topics from Curriculum Maestro. The planning combines NC objectives with the skills progression. This has been developed so each year group builds on the previous learning. The curriculum in key stage 1, enables children to plan and make salads and sandwiches, developing cutting skills; designing and building dens and beach huts, learning how to make

structures stronger and more stable; learning about the use of mechanisms such as wheels, axels and chassis; and beginning to learn how to join fabric.

In lower key stage 2, the children have the opportunity to design and make healthy snacks as well as the packaging. In upper key stage 2, the children move onto learning about CAD systems as well as practicing a variety of sewing stitches.

Teacher's Role

- To aim to give every child the opportunity to experience success by structuring tasks to suit the child's needs.
- Provide focused tasks that develop a range of techniques, skills, processes and knowledge through topic work.
- To provide a working environment where the children are aware of safety issues which apply when working with tools.
- To give children regular retrieval opportunities to recall the subject knowledge they have learned.

Role of the Subject Leader

- The subject leader will liaise with, and support other staff members in delivering the National Curriculum.
- To monitor Design and Technology within the school e.g. subject scrutiny.
- To attend relevant courses, keep up to date with new developments and inform staff.
- To audit resources and equipment regularly, ensuring resources are available and appropriate to the needs of the staff.
- To ensure that Design Technology keeps an appropriate profile within the school e.g. through displays and carrying out curriculum walks.

Assessment

Assessments in Design and Technology will be based on teacher observations and made at the end of each unit using the data analysis tool, the assessment is based on both practical and theoretical understanding of each unit. If a teacher believes that a child is achieving one but not the other then this should be recorded along with their assessment of the child. Teachers should collect evidence of analysis of a range of existing products, children's designs, photographs of practical work and evaluations of their own work in the class DT floorbook.

Resources

It is the responsibility of each class teacher to collect resources and then return them after use to the DT cupboard. If any resources become broken during use, the Design Technology leader needs to be informed as soon as possible. Resources will be constantly reviewed and updated, within the restraints of the school budget, to meet National Curriculum demands. The resources in the Design Technology cupboard are to be used for the subject only unless discussed with the subject leader.

Equal Opportunities

The school's aim is to provide for all children to achieve, regardless of gender, social and cultural backgrounds, disability or special needs. Work will be planned so that all children can take part in lessons fully and effectively.

Health and Safety

Teachers will teach the safe use of tools and equipment and insist on good practice. Children will be taught how to take steps to control risks.

Children will be strictly supervised in their use of equipment at all times.

Glue guns, junior hacksaws, knives and cooking hobs will only be used under adult supervision.

Bench hooks and clamps must be used when sawing any material; safety goggles must be worn and any loose items of clothing/hair must be tucked in.

Food Hygiene

Children and staff will take care to undertake appropriate hand washing and other hygiene related activities prior to preparing food.