

Holymead Primary School

Design and Technology Policy

Rationale

At Holymead Primary we believe that Design and Technology is important because it encourages pupils to learn to think creatively to solve problems both as individuals and as members of a team. Children develop technical understanding and making skills, learn about design methods, and investigate their environment and the materials around them.

Objectives

The objectives of Design Technology are to:

- Develop imaginative thinking in children and to enable them to talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making.
- Enable children to talk about how things work and to draw and model their ideas.
- Encourage children to select appropriate tools and techniques for making a product, whilst following safe procedures.
- Explore attitudes towards the man-made world and how we live and work within it.
- Develop an understanding of technological processes, products, how they are manufactured and their contribution to our society.
- Promote a sense of enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making.

Teaching and Learning

Design Technology activities are taught in a variety of ways across Holymead Primary School, including blocks of taught time, as part of a topic, or in short skills-based activities where necessary. Design Technology has relevance across the curriculum and links with other subjects throughout the school. For example, DT has links to ICT when using design software as well as links to Maths where appropriate to incorporate aspects of measurement. Additionally, DT units often have links to History, Geography or Science topics.

Organisation

- Pupils are given opportunities to experience different approaches to Design Technology, working individually and collaboratively.
- The emphasis in the teaching of Design Technology is upon practical experience and provision should be made for the children to practise skills, explore materials, plan ideas and design products to produce a finished piece.
- All children in Key stage 1 and 2 are provided with a sketch book to record their art and design work. This is also used to plan and develop their ideas for Design Technology. It is also used to record evidence such as photographs and evaluations (where appropriate) of their finished products.
- Classroom based resources should be easily accessible to the children. They should be taught how to access resources, use tools and materials and, where age appropriate, to set up and clear away.

Resources

Design Technology resources required for the delivery of the curriculum are available on both sites and replenished as appropriate. The resources should be in line with the outlines of the National Curriculum and accessible so teachers can fulfil the progression of skills for each unit. Teachers are responsible for ensuring the necessary materials are available well before needed.

Planning

Design Technology is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. At Holymead Primary School we plan using the National Curriculum and the Design Technology progression of skills document. Teachers are responsible for planning, delivering and reviewing Design Technology. Plans will include specific learning objectives, expected outcomes, differentiation and will build on the children's prior learning. Planning is to provide children of all abilities the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding as they move up through the school.

Assessment

At Holymead Primary School, we assess the children's work in Design Technology using a variety of methods such as:

- Looking at a child's recorded work i.e. design ideas, finished model/product, photographs, written evaluations.
- Individual discussion.
- Listening to the children's ideas as they discuss between themselves.
- Group discussions in both planning and reporting back sessions.
- Observing the children's skills in Design Technology lessons and making notes on a mark sheet regarding their progression within a specific unit of work.

Health and Safety

The safety of the children is the responsibility of the class teacher. The children are made aware of the safe use and correct procedure involved when using tools and equipment in a learning environment. Children will be given suitable demonstrations of how to use tools and equipment before being allowed to work with them and supervised closely during their use. Children are made aware of the need to be careful and to understand that their actions can affect others. Risk assessments, for the resources held in school, are available and should be reviewed by class teachers before use.

Monitoring and Review

The monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in Design Technology is the responsibility of the Subject Leader. Subject Leaders evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in Design Technology and indicate areas for further improvement through planning reviews, observations and monitoring work. Support and training is offered to staff where appropriate.

Equal Opportunities

At Holymead Primary School, we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the school irrespective of ethnicity, gender, disability, faith or religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, transgender, pregnancy or age.

Policy Review

This policy was reviewed in December 2021.

It will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.

December 2023



Reviewed by: Zara Nashnush

Article 29 - Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.