

Cavendish Close Infant School

Design and Technology Policy

Rationale

Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and other's needs, wants and values. High quality Design and Technology education makes an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation.

DfE 2013

Aims

We aim to:

- 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 products and the work of others.
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

Objectives

The children will be taught to:

Design

- Design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria.
- Generate, develop model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups and, where appropriate, information and communication technology.

Make

- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks e.g. cutting, shaping, joining and finishing.
- Select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics.

Evaluate

- Explore and evaluate a range of existing products.
- Evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria.

Technical knowledge

- Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable.
- Explore and use mechanisms e.g. levers, sliders, wheels and axles, in their products.

Cooking and nutrition

- Use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes.
- Understand where food comes from.

DfE 2013

Planning

Design and Technology will be taught as part of a creative, topic based curriculum. It may be blocked, or taught weekly depending on what will give the best outcome for the children. Staff will plan using the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage guidance, and detailed long term plans provided by the co-ordinator. An emphasis should be placed on developing skills and knowledge of techniques. There should also be a focus on designing, making and evaluating. Planning will be moderated for continuity, progression and coverage by the Design and Technology co-ordinator. Arts Weeks will take place each term. During Arts Weeks staff will focus planning on the development of Art, DT, Drama, Music and Dance. There will be a skills focus each term, to help develop key skills.

Assessment and Recording

Most assessments will be made through observation, using the objectives boards and post-it notes. There is no requirement to report levels, but descriptors are available if staff should wish to use them.

Inclusion

All children have an equal right to access the curriculum regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability. Able children or those with Special Educational Needs will be catered for through class teacher differentiation. This is in line with the requirements of the SEN and Gifted and Talented policies.

Health and Safety

Health and safety issues are considered in the delivery and management of the curriculum to ensure that:

- Tools and materials are regularly inspected and replaced when necessary.
- Tools and materials are cleaned and stored safely.
- Safe working practices are followed by all staff and children to ensure everyone's safety.

- Children are taught how to use tools and materials safely and correctly.
- A safe working environment is maintained in all areas of the school.
- Broken or worn tools are disposed of appropriately and replaced.
- All art materials are appropriate for their intended use and contain no hazardous materials.

Role of the Design and Technology Co-ordinator

The Design and Technology co-ordinator will ensure that staff are kept up to date with curriculum changes. They will also monitor planning and check for coverage and progression. The co-ordinator will liaise with staff to ensure that their training needs are met, and that the resources needed to meet the requirements of the curriculum are available in school. The co-ordinator will also liaise with the other members of the creative team to manage the arrangements for Arts Weeks.

This Policy was rewritten October 2014

It will be reviewed September 2016

