

Pilgrims' Way Primary School

Design and Technology Policy



Published: Autumn Term 2022

Review Date: Autumn Term 2023

Intent:

Design and Technology is an inspiring and practical subject for us at Pilgrims' Way Primary School. We aim to ignite creativity and imagination in all children, through an enriched, broad, and balanced curriculum. Our teaching enables pupils to take risks, be resourceful and be innovative.

Our Curriculum:

At Pilgrims' Way, Design and Technology is taught in termly blocks, three times per year (except for the EYFS). We follow the design, make, and evaluate process. We teach a clear progression of skills and knowledge through six key areas (mechanisms, structures, textiles, cooking and nutrition, KS2 electrical systems and KS2 digital world). Design and Technology lessons incorporate different teaching strategies and this variety means that lessons are engaging and appeal to different learning styles.

Teachers support pupils to design and make products within different contexts as well as evaluate the impact of Design and Technology on daily life and the wider world. We ensure that pupils develop their creative, technical and practical skills, that pupils design and make products for different users, that pupils evaluate and test their own and other people's ideas, that pupils understand and apply the principles of nutrition and cooking and that pupils participate in an increasingly technological world.

Objectives for Pilgrims' Way Primary School:

- to develop children's imaginations and their ideas when designing and making
- to use their understanding of how artefacts work, to develop their own designs
- to use the appropriate skills and equipment for tasks safely
- to develop understanding of how technology affects the world
- to design in different ways, such as drawings, prototypes, discussion and ICT
- to enjoy practical design and make activities.

Teaching and Learning:

- Children are encouraged to think creatively to develop ideas, plan and make artefacts.
- They are encouraged to become critical thinkers when they are evaluating designs and products.
- They are provided with opportunities to work independently and collaboratively with others.
- Collaborative tasks involve opportunities for speaking and listening.
- They work with different materials and resources.

- The needs of each child are met by matching tasks to different abilities.
- Some children are challenged through extended activities and others are supported through additional adult support or adapted tasks.
- Mostly, technology is taught through topics and this is to enrich learning.
- Links with other subjects such as Mathematics, Science and Art are promoted when possible.
- Year groups choose their own tasks based upon the framework as this ensures a broad and progressive coverage of skills and materials.

The Foundation Stage

Children develop their technology skills through the Early Learning Goal objectives. They investigate and use construction kits, materials, tools and products. The aim is to develop confidence and physical skills in different contexts.

Differentiation and SEND

We ensure that all Design and Technology lessons are accessible for all pupils, regardless of their abilities in other aspects of the curriculum. Pupils are supported by teachers and TAs and there are also differentiated expectations.

Inclusion

Pilgrims' Way Primary school is an inclusive and diverse primary school in the centre of Canterbury, which teaches pupils from the ages of 3-11. We provide an irresistible, broad and balanced curriculum to meet the needs of all our pupils.

The curriculum is designed to make learning relevant and meaningful by embedding context and activating pupil's prior knowledge. Pupils are given opportunities to demonstrate their learning through cultural and personal links. Mainstream Core Standards are used to support all children's access to the curriculum with learning scaffolded to support learners' diverse needs. Teaching opportunities across the curriculum are designed to develop language and literacy so that pupils become fluent in the academic language of the primary curriculum.

We actively liaise with parents to help them support their children's learning.

Cross Curricular Links

Design and Technology has clear links with other subjects, and this provides opportunities for pupils to apply their learning. Pupils may draw on knowledge from subjects such as Mathematics, Science, Computing and Art.

Health and Safety

General requirements for Health and Safety apply in this subject and care needs to be taken when using tools. Tools should be checked before use, be age appropriate and children should be trained to use them safely. Children are also taught to follow proper procedures for food safety and hygiene.

Assessment

Teachers assess the design process, and they also assess through observations during practical lessons. Progress is assessed against the learning objectives for each lesson. As well as teacher assessment, pupils are encouraged to assess their own and each other's work because it helps to develop their evaluating skills.

Monitoring and Review:

The subject leader is responsible for coordinating the Design Technology curriculum, supporting colleagues with resources and direction, and ensuring that a broad and balanced range of skills are taught.

Written and Reviewed by the STEM Hub