



## **POLICY FOR DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Design and Technology** is concerned with each child's ability to investigate how things are made and how they work, to observe and develop opinions about quality and finish in the world around them and to identify opportunities to design and make for themselves. The creative element involves children in using materials and equipment to develop skills in expressing ideas and evaluating their work.

### **AIMS**

**Our aims in teaching Design and Technology** are that all children will build upon their natural enthusiasm for making things and to:

- find enjoyment in designing and making things for themselves
- give every child an awareness of how things are designed and made in the world around them
- encourage confidence and skill in designing and making according to ability
- develop skills in handling materials and tools
- develop appropriate vocabulary to help them to understand their work and the work of others
- appreciate and evaluate their own achievements and those of great inventors and engineers

### **PRINCIPLES OF LEARNING**

**Design and Technology** is important because:

- designing and making things is a pleasurable activity which can provide fulfilment through life
- observation of how things are made and how they work heightens perception of the world in which we live
- designing and making things requires a discipline of logical thinking to achieve a sequence of actions
- designing and making provides an opportunity for children of all abilities to achieve success

- designing and making often requires team work and communication with others

**Design and Technology is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum.** The fundamental skills knowledge and concepts of the subject are set out in “Design and Technology in the National Curriculum” where they are categorised into attainment targets.

## **PRINCIPLES FOR THE TEACHING**

- **The Design and Technology Curriculum is organised** in topic based in Key Stage 1 and 2. However this is under review – Key Stage 2 are trialling some units from the new QCA document. These units are from the QCA documents.
- **The Predominant Mode of Working in Design and Technology** is co-operative group work although individual work and class teaching is used where appropriate. Within this structure groups are usually of mixed ability and relevant discussion is encouraged.
- **Teaching Assistants are used** to assist Class Teachers.
- **Parents** are sometimes invited to assist in DT activities.
- **Pupils with Special Needs** are given help in the group/class situation where appropriate.
- **Equal opportunities** are addressed by the whole school policy and care taken to provide opportunities for all to experience the diverse activities within the D.T. curriculum.
- **Homework** is used sometimes to support Design and Technology.
- **Excellence in Technology is celebrated** in display and performance.

## **PRINCIPLES FOR ENSURING PROGRESS AND CONTINUITY**

**Planning for Design and Technology** is a process in which all teachers are involved, wherein:

- the foundation for curricular planning is the Whole School Development Plan, developed through a process of collaboration between staff and approved by governors.
- topics are planned with class teachers working in groups and emphasising links with other curriculum areas, especially Science, and plans are carefully balanced to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum requirements.

- staff meetings are used to discuss the Design and Technology curriculum and ensure consistency of approach and standards.
- work plans are drawn up by individual teachers for each half term and monitored by the head teacher.

## PRINCIPLES FOR ASSESSMENT

- ◆ **Feedback to Pupils** about their own progress is given to pupils verbally during the lessons and at the completion of a topic during discussion and evaluation.
- **Formative Assessment** is carried out by teachers in the course of their teaching.
- **Summative Assessment** is carried out at the end of each National Curriculum Key Stage through teacher assessment and at the end of QCA units against the objectives achieved.

## PRINCIPLES FOR RECORDING AND REPORTING

- **Records of Progress in Design and Technology** are kept for each child.
- **Reporting to Parents** is done on a termly basis through interviews and annually through a written report.

## PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF RESOURCES

- **Classroom Resources in Design and Technology** are kept, clearly labelled, in each classroom and in the Technology Design Room and making areas.
- **Central Resources in Design and Technology** are the responsibility of the Technology Co-ordinators who have a budget available.
- **Visits to** exhibitions are sometimes planned in conjunction with other curriculum areas (i.e. The Science Workshop) to support Technology activities.
- **Information Technology** is used as an important resource and in computer-aided design.
- **The Library** is used as a resource in Technology.