

# Design and Technology Subject Policy

## St. Francis' Catholic Primary School



**Approved by FGB on:** N/A

**Committee Responsible:** Learning

**Next review due by:** November 2023

# Design and Technology

## **Intent**

At St Francis' School, Design and Technology (DT) helps to prepare our pupils to engage with and contribute to a rapidly changing society. Children will develop skills in order to think creatively and construct products to solve real and relevant problems that consider not only their own needs but those of a wider audience. Design Technology can easily be recognised and developed within a Christian ethos; the Bible speaks of God the Creator and, as we were made in His image, each human being shares creative qualities and talents.

## **Aims**

- develop an awareness of the built environment and appreciate that we can affect and control it
- observe, identify and understand elements of design in the natural and manmade world
- respond to design criteria when creating products, using knowledge and understanding to innovate and take risks in the search for a solution
- evaluate own and others' designs, appreciating strengths and making changes where necessary
- teach practical skills with a wide range of tools and materials, including food, and select the tools and materials most suitable for purpose
- develop awareness of safety by identifying hazards/risks (including the principles of nutrition) and taking appropriate action
- help develop the social skills necessary to work as part of a team, as well as the ability to work independently when the situation demands
- become aware of the impact of Design and Technology, its contribution to society and our quality of life.

## **Implementation**

- the National Curriculum Programmes of Study support the planning and teaching of Design and Technology at St Francis
- the teaching of Design and Technology happens through stand-alone lessons as well as being integrated into cross-curricular
- a progression of skills is taught and followed from years 1-6
- food technology equipment is available in the OOH room. Materials and equipment for other areas of D.T. are stored outside the year 5 classroom
- design and technology tasks will involve children working individually, in groups and as a whole class, in order to exchange and discuss ideas as part of working towards the solution
- photographs will act as a record to document children's project work. Plans, designs and evaluations of work from year 3 onwards will be recorded in Art/DT sketchbooks
- teaching time will focus on the development of skills to design, select, produce, evaluate and modify
- children will participate in self-evaluation as well as peer assessment in order to modify their construction
- children are expected to use equipment safely and to assess risks, taking action to reduce risks to themselves and others. Prior to using tools and equipment, children will be taught how to handle and use them safely, and they will be kept under observation when using them. They will be taught health and hygiene rules when handling food

- class based learning will be supplemented by visitors with particular expertise, visits to other locations to enrich learning and use of the school grounds where possible
- real-life designs/structures will be incorporated in the DT curriculum to inspire, influence and inform their learning
- children will be given real-life and relevant problems to design and solve within a group environment. Beyond simply designing to solve a problem, children will be encouraged to innovate and produce appealing designs
- technical language will be introduced alongside the development of a construction.

### **Impact**

The DT coordinator, reporting to the Head Teacher, is responsible for monitoring teaching practice to ensure that the school DT policy is being implemented. This includes overseeing the development and review of schemes for learning in DT, mapping out and curriculum planning. The policy will be reviewed every three years by the current DT coordinator.

### **Conclusion**

The teaching of Design and Technology at St Francis encourages children to be curious, inquisitive, explore their sense of awe and wonder and to ask questions about the world around them. Through the development of investigative skills, they begin to make links and understand why things happen and how things work. Children will develop skills in order to think creatively and construct products to solve real and relevant problems that consider not only their own needs but those of a wider audience.