



Benton Dene Primary School

Design and Technology Policy

Date of Policy: October 2016

K.Lindsay

Rational

At Benton Dene Primary School, we believe that all children are creative and we aim to foster the lifelong skills of creative thinking, problem-solving and design.

Design and technology plays an important role in the school curriculum as it prepares children to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world. The subject encourages children to become autonomous and creative problem-solvers, both as individuals and as part of a team. It enables them to identify needs and opportunities and to respond by developing ideas and eventually making products and systems.

Through the study of design and technology children combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, social and environmental issues, as well as functions and industrial practices. This allows them to reflect on and evaluate present and past design and technology, its uses and its impacts. Design and technology helps all children to become discriminating and informed consumers and potential innovators.

Aims

- To provide opportunities for all children to design and make products.
- To provide a range of activities to develop the children's capability and confidence in their own ideas and to foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making.
- To help children develop an understanding of the ways in which people from the past and present have used design to meet their needs.
- To explore attitudes towards the made world and how we live and work within it
- To develop an understanding of technological processes, products, and their manufacture, and their contribution to our society.
- To develop children's confidence and skill in using and selecting a range of tools and materials safely.
- To help children develop an ability to criticise constructively and evaluate their own products and those of others.

Curriculum Guidelines

Foundation Stage

All activities are planned to cover the objectives outlined in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. This learning forms the foundations for later work in Design and Technology. The activities are child centred and tailored around the children's current needs and interests. These early experiences include asking questions about how things work, investigating and using a variety of construction kits, materials, tools and

products, developing making skills and handling appropriate tools and construction materials safely and with increasing control. We provide a range of experiences that encourage exploration, observation, problem solving, critical thinking and discussion. These activities, indoors and outdoors, attract the children's interest and curiosity.

Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2

The teaching of D.T is currently planned to cover the key skills linked to the National Curriculum objectives. Each year group follows a topic-based approach with an over-arching learning challenge each half-term. This is then broken down into smaller weekly learning challenges to help the children achieve their key skills in a creative and dynamic way.

The children are given further opportunity to express themselves creatively through topic homework. Children are encouraged to research their question in a variety of ways and to present their work through different media. This approach provides a greater involvement for parents/carers in their child's learning, whilst supporting and enhancing classroom practice.

Upper Key Stage 2

The planning and teaching of D.T in Years 5 and 6 is designed to cover the National Curriculum objectives. Each year group follows a topic-based approach with creative activities used to engage and broaden the children's understanding of the over-arching question. Attainment within the subject is assessed against the National Curriculum attainment targets.

It is expected that the key skills will be incorporated into years 5 and 6 over the next year.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There is a wide range of after school clubs and activities provided across the year including art and craft clubs, cookery and ICT clubs. The children are encouraged to share their own ideas and thoughts for skills and activities during the sessions. When appropriate, skilled practitioners are invited to lead the sessions.

Assessment

The children's work in Design and Technology is assessed using the key skills/NC levels. Close monitoring of the children's progress ensures that the children can continue to be challenged and supported appropriately.

Assessment of D.T in the Foundation Stage is carried out using the EYFS profile points for the Creative, Knowledge and Understanding and Physical strand. The children are continuously assessed and next steps given to help inform planning and provide for the children's interests and ensure progression.

Samples of the children's work are used by the Scientific and Technological team to create a portfolio of evidence showing National Curriculum attainment levels achieved across the whole school. This provides evidence of progression and assessment for teachers and visitors.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

All children including pupils with SEN at Benton Dene Primary School are treated equally and fairly. The creative approach embraced by the whole school provides each child the opportunity to express themselves individually and in a variety of different forms. The lessons and activities are planned to cater for all of the children's needs through the assessment of key skills to allow all children to achieve and make progress. The weekly learning challenges are open-ended to enable all the children to provide their own interpretation and response. The children are often supported individually or in a small group by the teaching staff. The teaching of Design and Technology provides opportunities of integration with Benton Dene School children, particularly in Food Technology sessions.

Opportunities for Gifted and Talented pupils to take part in competitions and additional educational visits and activities are encouraged and supported. Individual learning plans enable these children to further enhance their experiences and develop their talent.

Responsibilities

Scientific and Technological Curricular Team

They are responsible for ensuring that

- The Design and Technology action plans will be reviewed and amended yearly to reflect measurable targets.
- The National Curriculum objectives are being covered across the school and that all the children have access to a broad, engaging and high-quality teaching of D.T.
- Resources are monitored and ordered.
- Planning and assessments are monitored.
- New initiatives and ideas are communicated to the whole school.
- School development plan is updated accordingly.

Class Teachers

They are responsible for ensuring that

- Children are given the opportunity to engage with a variety of materials and equipment and that they have access to a broad and balanced Design and Technology curriculum.
- Children are assessed and appropriate learning challenges set to ensure all children can achieve their potential.
- They support the Curriculum team and subject leader with monitoring and evaluation of the subject when required.

Senior Management Team

They are responsible for ensuring that

- Release time is given to enable monitoring to take place.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The subject will be monitored and reviewed annually by the subject co-ordinator and supported by the Scientific and Technological Foundation Curriculum team. This will include:

- Learning Walks
- Planning scrutiny
- Book scrutiny
- Resources audit
- Pupil discussions/interviews
- Collecting of evidence for a leveled portfolio of work
- Lesson observations
- Subject action plans

Monitoring and Evaluation will be based on progress made and attainment achieved across the whole school through analysis of key skills/ National Curriculum levels, work scrutiny, pupils voice and feedback from staff and parents/carers.

Facilities and Resources

At Benton Dene Primary School we have access to a number of facilities to support the teaching of Design and Technology including a dedicated Art and Design room, music room, ICT suite, Imagine room and a large hall with staging, lighting and sound equipment. Teaching staff and pupils have access to a wide range of tools, resources, books and materials, both in the classes and across the school to enable a broad coverage and depth of teaching.

The school environment reflects the high standards of work expected and achieved across the school. The children's work is celebrated and valued through displays, productions and assemblies.

Health and Safety

Health and safety needs to be considered in relation to many D.T activities across the school. The planning and design of projects by pupils should include appropriate safety considerations.

Prior to any activity all teaching staff must ensure that:-

- The children have been instructed in safe practices, procedures and the use of protective equipment.
- Certain activities are restricted to appropriate areas of the school and to specific age ranges, e.g. Use of glue guns, craft knives and food preparation.
- All tools used must be of good quality, in good condition and stored safely.
- All tools are used correctly, after demonstration and supervision by an adult.
- Equipment is not left unattended or unsupervised.
- Protective aprons/eye wear are used if necessary, particularly if glue guns, hand tools or spray paint is used. Safety goggles are available for use by key stage two pupils.
- Instruction is given on the correct use of a glue gun including warning pupils of the hot surfaces of the gun and the risk of burns from the residual heat of any molten glue that comes into contact with the skin.
- Hygiene procedures are followed with food preparation or tasting.
- There is sufficient working space for the children
- Broken equipment is disposed of appropriately
- Floors and work surfaces are kept clean and tidy
- Long hair is tied back during practical activities when appropriate.
- Parent helpers should be made aware of safety guidelines and risk assessments carried out if required

Parental/Community Involvement & Educational visits

Educational visits and fieldwork are key to the teaching and exploration of D.T and the school aims to provide a variety of opportunities and excursions across the years. The local facilities, such as museums and galleries are used to enhance school based projects.

Pupils are given the opportunity to visit Outdoor Activity Centres which support many of the foundation subjects including Design and Technology.

Benton Dene Primary School acknowledges the integral role parents/carers play in their child's education. CRB cleared parents/carers are encouraged to help out in school and accompany classes on fieldtrips. The support of parents/carers to the school's homework policy ensures that the children are able to express and challenge themselves through their homework.

Additional Information

You may wish to view the Assessment Policy for whole-school assessment procedures and other subject policies for cross-curricular links to Design and Technology.