

Sacred Heart Primary School

Design Technology Intent



'Jesus at the Heart of all that we do'

'Tell me and I forget - show me and I may remember - Let me do it and I learn.'

Curriculum Vision

At Sacred Heart Primary School, design and technology is about teaching children how to design and make products for a specific need or purpose. It involves children learning about the world we live in and developing a wide range of skills through designing and making. It helps children learn vital skills such as how to think through problems creatively, how to organise themselves and how to work with knowledge and practical skills to bring about change and to shape the environment. Through the teaching of design and technology at Sacred Heart Primary School our aim is to ensure that children become discriminating, informed users of products and become innovators.

Curriculum Action

The design and technology curriculum at Sacred Heart Primary School is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England. Teachers use this framework to teach the children key skills through a cross curricular approach using creative and practical activities.

The 2014 Primary National Curriculum for design and technology aims to ensure that all pupils:

- 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.

At Sacred Heart Primary School, the children are taught design and technology skills in Key Stage 1 and 2 following the *design, make and evaluate* process outlined below -

Design - Children are taught to design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on their own design criteria. Children are taught to communicate their ideas through discussion with others and to develop sketches, diagrams and prototypes and information and communication technology

Make - Children are given opportunities to select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks such as cutting, shaping, joining and finishing. Children are able to select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients based on their functions.

Evaluate - Children will explore and evaluate a range of existing products. Children will be given opportunities to evaluate their own and others ideas. They will be able to consider the views from others about ways in which they can improve and adapt their designs.

Technical knowledge - Children will be taught about structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable. Children will explore and use mechanisms such as levers, sliders, wheels and axles in their products. In Key Stage 2 children will have opportunities to use and understand mechanical and electrical systems in their products.

In the **Early Years Foundation Stage**, children are taught design and technology skills through a balance of child initiated and adult directed learning. Through reference to *the 'Expressive Arts and Design'* Early Learning Goal we provide opportunities for children to:

- Develop a curiosity and interest in the made world through investigating, talking and asking questions about familiar products;
- Develop confidence & enthusiasm through frequent exploration of construction kits to build & construct objects, and activities for exploring joining, assembling & shaping materials to make products (The Workshop & The Creation Station are areas where children can choose to explore these skills).
- Extend their vocabulary through talking & explaining their designing & making activities.

Cooking and Nutrition

- The aim of this is to ensure that the children understand how to cook healthy and nutritious dishes. At Sacred Heart it is our aim to instil a love of cooking with the children & to teach crucial life skills.

Curriculum Impact

At Sacred Heart Primary School, teachers measure the impact of our design and technology curriculum through the assessment, recording and reporting approach -

- The subject leader will monitor the teaching and learning of design and technology and inform staff about updates.
- Teachers will assess children's prior learning before a topic is taught.
- Teachers will assess children's knowledge and understanding at the end of each topic taught.
- Children will use Creative Curriculum books to record their work. These can be used for assessment purposes & monitoring progression. Children's work may also be recorded in other books due to the cross curricular nature of the subject.
- Teachers will regularly mark the children's work in books and feedback will be given.
- Children are encouraged to make personal assessment of their own work through evaluating activities & identifying what they need to improve.
- In Key Stage 1 and 2 teachers use ongoing assessments to inform future lessons and address any gaps in attainment.
- Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage are assessed through the Early Learning Goal, 'Expressive Arts and Design'. The children's progress is tracked termly using the 'Target Tracker' system and age related expectation levels are reported to parents at the end of the Foundation Stage year.