



Design & Technology Policy

Review Date January 2023

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day; Working Together



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Why Design and Technology is important?

At Crabtree Farm we believe that Design and Technology (DT) holds a fundamental importance in developing and preparing children for the ever-changing technological world. Through enriching children's creative and critical thinking, it allows them to become independent and creative problem-solvers, as both 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.

Our Aims

At Crabtree Farm, through an engaging DT curriculum, we aim to inspire our children to become the next engineers, designers, chefs, and architects.

Our aim is to ensure that our children are taught the subject of DT as specified in the National Curriculum.

DT prepares children to participate in an ever-changing technological world. Children learn to think creatively to improve the quality of life by looking for and responding to human needs, wants and interests.

We want our children to:

- Find enjoyment in designing and making things for themselves and others.
- Develop language and talk, specific to DT, to enable children to investigate, plan, make and evaluate effectively.
- Develop skills to solve problems in imaginative and creative ways.
- Explore and select appropriate tools, techniques and materials for making a product.
- Recognise the importance of DT as a vehicle for using skills which have been learnt in other areas of the curriculum.
- Develop an awareness of the potential dangers involved in DT together with an understanding of the need for safety and willingness to follow rules.
- Use the internet to research and explore past design and technology and use this knowledge in their own designing
- Develop an understanding of health and nutrition and how to cook.
- Develop an attitude that is conscious of what a healthy lifestyle is and how food contributes towards this.

Teacher Guidelines

In Key Stages 1 and 2 Design and Technology is taught through the teaching of well-planned lessons using the National Curriculum.



DT is mainly taught as a standalone subject, but can be used through a cross-curricular approach to enhance children's knowledge and understanding in their current topic.

Curriculum planning for DT is embedded in year group themes. The aim is that each child will participate in no less than 3 projects that require skills identified in the curriculum.

Activities in DT are planned so that children build on their prior learning. Children of all abilities are given the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding. Planned progression is built into the themes, so that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

Teaching Methods

The teaching methods employed vary according to the age, ability and the experiences of the children and the concept being taught.

Design and Technology is taught in whole class sessions. There are opportunities for children to work in small groups and individually within these lessons, depending on the aims and objectives.

Teachers give clear instructions to the children at the introduction of new materials/tools and the skills needed to use all equipment effectively and safely. When a new technique is being introduced, the teacher will demonstrate the technique and show a finished example. This can also be implemented through the termly 'toolbox talk' sessions.

Once a half term, DT should be used in a linked text reading session.

All work should be recorded in a project booklet. At least 3 booklets (LA, MA, HA) should be put in the DT cupboard once complete, as evidence.

Over the course of the year each class should complete at least 1 cooking project.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

In EYFS, DT is taught in a very hands-on and child led way following the guidance in the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework. Opportunities are provided for children to develop Design and Technology skills through different areas of learning. Specifically: Physical Development (Fine Motor Skills), Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Managing Self) and Expressive Arts and Design (Creating with Materials).

DT is continually interwoven into the children's daily practice and provision. Specific adult led activities are planned for to teach and progress specific skills, alongside a range of continuous provision to embed and enhance children's existing knowledge and skills.



Health and Safety

The safety of the children is the responsibility of the class teacher. Children are made aware of the possible dangers when using certain materials. Children are taught how to follow appropriate procedures for handling tools and materials safely; including food safety and hygiene. This is taught at the beginning of lessons or during toolbox talk sessions. Children must be supervised at all times when using specific tools that are deemed as high risk.

Equal Opportunities and SEN

We aim to provide a teaching and learning environment that allows all children to thrive and reach their full potential. All children are encouraged to take an active part in whole class sessions. Teachers differentiate activities to ensure that the specific needs of individual children are best met. This includes providing adult support and appropriate equipment and materials to enable all children to access the DT curriculum. Teachers are also aware of children who have a particular talent for DT and aim to provide additional challenges for these children where appropriate.

Resources

All DT resources are kept in a central place for everybody to access. The resources are located in a cupboard, in the dinner hall. It is the subject leader's responsibility to order resources and to keep track of what is needed. However, it is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that there are sufficient resources available for the coming lesson. They need to ask the subject lead, in enough time, if something needs buying or ordering.

Each class is allocated £20 per year out of the DT budget for their food project. It is the class teacher's responsibility to buy the ingredients needed.

Assessment

Teachers continually assess children's skills in Design and Technology by:

- Observing their capability at completing specific skills during class sessions.
- Talking to the children on an individual basis.
- Assessing their work at the end of each project.

Pupil's attainment can be measured against the objectives in the National Curriculum. Pupils should also be involved in actively evaluating their own work and reflecting upon their practice to think about possible improvements and alterations that could be made to further improve their work.

Miss Staniland, DT Subject Leader
January 2022, to be reviewed in January 2023

