



Design and Technology Curriculum

“Design is not just what it looks like and feels like
Design is how it works”
Steve Jobs

Intent, Implementation and Impact Statement

Intent

At St Ives Infants School we aim to promote an exciting Design and Technology curriculum that sparks curiosity and ignites creativity by allowing children to experience a hands-on, explorative approach to learning. We aim to provide a comprehensive and engaging educational experience that builds and applies knowledge to not only make products but also to understand the principles of nutrition and to learning how to cook. The curriculum inspires our children to explore, design, create and evaluate whilst developing problem solving and critical thinking skills, in addition to the technical and practical skills needed to successfully navigate their way through an ever-evolving technological world.

Implementation

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning, our curriculum implementation covers five main areas. We encourage the children to explore, design, create, evaluate all whilst developing their use of technical language, this ensures that children are learning to be natural investigators, inventors and makers. By creating simple products and promoting the enjoyment of solving problems, they will acquire and develop invaluable life skills.

Explore

Projects that are linked to our topics will encourage them to explore different aspects of design and technology; discovering how things works and why we use them.

Design

Children will start to think about design; identifying problems, finding solutions and developing their design. This highlights the importance of creativity, critical thinking and teamwork.

Create

Now children can bring their designs to life using various materials, tools and equipment. They transform their ideas into functional products using problem solving skills when things may not go to plan.

Evaluate

This teaches the importance for children to reflect on their work. Through a variety of assessments including peer feedback and self-assessment, children will soon develop a keen understanding of strengths and areas to be highlighted for improvement.

Our dedicated teachers will guide children through a structured yet flexible curriculum which is taught through cross-curricular subjects, half-termly and which focuses on the technical knowledge and skills specified in the National Curriculum. In order for each child to be able to express themselves creatively, these skills are built into sequences of lessons, building on previous learning and adapted accordingly.



Impact

Progression through the Design and Technology curriculum will create a positive impact on our children. We will have nurtured a natural curiosity which allows them to acquire a deeper understanding of not only how things work but how they can be improved; this is evidenced in progress of knowledge and skills throughout the duration of a topic, spanning from its beginning to its conclusion. By designing and creating children will become adept at problem solving and critical thinking. Assessing and evaluating their own products and those of others will create a culture where an attitude of refining and reflecting is necessary in order to improve. We anticipate the impact of this curriculum will go beyond the classroom and ultimately prepare the children to be confident and creative, artistic and adaptable. enthusiastic and empowered to ensure they can thrive in the real world.