Design and Technology

Intent

At Holy Family Catholic Primary School, we want to give children a curriculum that promotes a passion and curiosity for learning where 'Only the Best is Good Enough'. It is our vision that each child fulfils their potential, regardless of their background or circumstances, in a safe, stimulating and caring environment. We aim to develop a love of learning inspired by quality teaching, foster high aspirations and encourage positive self-esteem.

Our Curriculum is built around the National Curriculum, however, this is enhanced and enriched to reflect the children and community we teach in.

It is our intention that pupils develop a **love of Design and Technology** and that they are provided them with **enriching** and **stimulating experiences** that will become **life-long memories.**

Design and Technology is a real and relevant subject that gives children the life skills they need to participate effectively in an increasingly technological world. Through the study of DT, children will acquire knowledge and skills that will help them succeed in other curriculum areas such as Maths, Science, Computing and Art and contribute to them becoming resourceful, enterprising and capable members of society.

Our D&T curriculum is designed to be **broad and balanced**, while fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum for D&T. We aim to provide real life contexts for learning and ensure the progressive development of knowledge and skills. We also aim to ignite children's creativity and imagination while developing their practical skills and ability to solve problems. Children will become **independent** and **resilient** learners who can take risks and think critically while gaining a greater understanding of social and environmental issues, as well as functions and industrial practices.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:
- Develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to engage successfully in today's technological world
- Apply a growing body of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high-quality products for a wide range of users
- Create interesting and original designs which solve real and relevant problems within a variety of different contexts
- Critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others, becoming discriminating and informed consumers and potential innovators in the process.
- Safely and effectively use a range of tools and equipment and materials and components
- Are able to use technical vocabulary and understand technological processes and products, their manufacture and their contribution to our society

- Know about key events and individuals in design and technology that have helped shape the world
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook

Implementation

At Holy Family, we teach Design and Technology History each term with our topics focusing on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. To enable the children to be immersed in an iterative process of designing and making, we deliver Design and Technology on a 'D&T Day' or days depending upon the content of the topic. As our school is structured around mixed year group classes, in order to ensure consistency, progression and National Curriculum coverage across all year groups, the DT topics are taught across each phase over a two year cycle. Therefore, between Year 1 and Year 6, the children will cover 18 different topics. These topics cover all of the relevant areas within D&T; Structures, Mechanisms & Mechanical Systems, Electrical Systems, Textiles, Programming and Electronics and Cooking & Nutrition, with a focus on practising the core skills of designing, making and evaluating as well as growing technical knowledge. In Early Years, child initiated and adult directed D&T activities are planned for according to relevant topics which ensures that children are developing the prerequisite skills for D&T within the national curriculum.

Our teachers plan in phase teams based around a two year topic cycle. They plan DT lessons for their class using the Progression of Knowledge and Skills document and the Knowledge Organisers provided for each topic. This progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and that the skills and knowledge taught are progressive from key stage to key stage.

Intended Impact

Within DT our aim is to ensure that children at Holy Family develop the practical capabilities and analytical and problem solving skills that will help prepare them for life beyond primary education. Our topics have been written with an emphasis on cross-curricular links so children see how design and technology is integral to the modern world in which they live.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:
- Interviewing the children about their learning (pupil voice)
- Evaluation sheets completed by the teacher after each topic
- Regular book and or learning journal scrutinies
- Photo and video evidence and images of the children's practical learning
- Moderation staff meetings where children's books are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for dialogue between teachers
- Marking of work in books