

Design and Technology Statement



We are a Right Respecting School and this statement supports the following articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child

Article 13: (Freedom of expression): Every child has the right to share information in any way they choose, including by talking, drawing or writing as long as it does not harm others.

Article 28: (Right to education): Every child has the right to a primary education, which should be free. They should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education of which they are capable.

Article 29: (Goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 31: (Leisure, play and culture): Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities.

Intent

At Lawdale Junior School we intend to build a Design and Technology curriculum which is varied, uses skills from other subjects, allows children to be creative and is engaging for pupils.

We intend for all children to acquire appropriate subject knowledge, skills and understanding, as set out in the national curriculum, and for their knowledge and skills to progress as they move through the school.

We believe that children need to have a growth mind-set to develop their creativity and to design thoughtful responses to a design challenge.

We want our children to use creativity and imagination, to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

It is our aim to create strong cross curricular links with other subjects, such as Mathematics, Science, Computing, and Art. We want Design and Technology to prepare our children, to give them the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences they need to be successful in later life and to prepare them for future careers.

Implementation

Design and Technology is a crucial part of school life and learning and it is for this reason that as a school we are dedicated to the teaching and delivery of a high-quality Design and Technology curriculum. This is implemented through a well thought out, whole school, yearly overview of the DT curriculum which allows for progression across year groups in all areas of DT (textiles, mechanisms, structures, food and electrical systems). These carefully planned and resourced projects provide children with a hands-on and enriching experience. Our lessons teach a range of skills, which are practised and developed across the school, ensuring that children are aware of health and safety issues related to the tasks undertaken. Teachers are given ownership and flexibility to plan for design and technology; often teaching DT as a block of lessons to allow the time needed for the children to be critical, inventive and reflective of their work.

As a school, we promote the food technology aspect of design and technology, in the wider school, through gardening sessions. Children learn about where our food comes from by growing their own, and the importance of a balanced, healthy and varied diet and how to prepare this. We have allotment plots at school and the gardening clubs and classes use these to grow and harvest food. We also have a well-equipped teaching kitchen for preparing food.

Each project from Year 3 to Year 6 addresses the principles of designing, making, and evaluating and incorporating relevant technical knowledge and understanding in relevant contexts.

Pupils are introduced to specific designers, chefs, nutritionists, etc. helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement and increasing the cultural capital from which they can draw in the future.

Pupils' skills and knowledge are assessed by the class teacher, throughout lessons, and a summative assessment is completed termly. This informs the design and technology lead teacher of any further areas for curriculum development, pupil support and/or training requirements for staff.

Impact

At Lawdale Junior School, children are able to use different media and materials to express their own ideas and use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about form, function and purpose. They are able to make plans and construct with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources. Across their time at the school, they develop skills to: use simple tools and techniques appropriately, effectively and safely; select appropriate resources for a product and adapt their work where necessary; and cook and prepare food, adhering to good health and hygiene routines

Children are able to apply their D&T knowledge and skills, both in D&T lessons and in other areas of the curriculum, with both confidence and enjoyment. Lessons allow children to develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world, gaining a firm foundation of knowledge and skills to see them equipped to take on further learning in their secondary school.