

Crofton Junior School



Design Technology Policy

February 2022

At Crofton Junior School, we inspire our children in Design Technology (DT) by giving them opportunities to explore designers' work using different materials. Our children learn about the different ways in which you could design a product, forming their own questions and opinions about them. Our children will be encouraged to ask questions, reflect on, imitate and create their own designs using a range of resources. They will have the opportunity to build upon basic skills and techniques so that they can create individual designs based on influences studied.

Implementation of Design Technology

DT is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that the children can achieve depth and progression in their learning. Themes are linked wherever possible to our text driver in order to provide meaningful links in learning across the curriculum. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked theme relating to the Chris Quigley milestone statements; these are mapped across the school, ensuring that knowledge builds progressively and that children develop skills systematically so that they learn more, know more & remember more. This will also ensure that design technology vocabulary will be introduced and built upon progressively. Tasks are selected and designed to provide appropriate challenge to all learners, in line with the school's commitment to inclusion.

The Impact of DT

The quality of DT across school is demonstrated by outcomes in work books, final pieces and discussions with pupils. As pupils progress through school, they develop a curiosity and eagerness to learn a more about DT skills, designers and designs throughout history. The impact of the DT curriculum is monitored through a combination of discussions with pupils and staff, informal observations, learning walks and book looks in order to provide a sound understanding of the quality of the curriculum and highlight areas for further development.

Teaching and Learning

At Crofton Junior School we use the 'Essentials' Curriculum (Chris Quigley) as a base for our foundation subjects. This breaks down the content of the National

Curriculum into smaller chunks called 'Milestones'. This guarantees appropriate progression through Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6. In doing so, we ensure that:

- Our DT themes focus on the development of three common strands: Master Practical Skills, Design, Make, Evaluate and Improve and Take Inspiration from Design Throughout History. Focusing on these key strands allows the pupils to develop an opinion on a designer's work and their style, the specific skill needed to replicate a product and to build up an idea into a finalised piece. It also encourages children to build upon previous knowledge and vocabulary and allows them to compare designers and styles.
- DT is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Themes are linked whenever possible to our text driver in order to provide meaningful links in learning across the curriculum.
- Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked theme relating to the Chris Quigley milestone statements; these are mapped across the school, ensuring that knowledge builds progressively and that children develop skills systematically so that they learn more, know more & remember more.

Cross Curricular Links

Each class at Crofton Junior School will have a different text or video driver that drives their learning throughout the year. These change either termly or half termly. Where possible, the DT that will be taught will make links to that text driver providing cross curricular links. For example, in the Autumn Term, Year 5 will read Roald Dahl's 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. This offers the opportunity to use designing and making skills to create packaging for Mr Willy Wonka's new sweet product.

Monitoring

All teachers are responsible for monitoring standards. It is the responsibility of the subject leader (Mrs K Mitchell) to champion and monitor standards of DT by:

- Ensuring that her subject knowledge is continually developed in order to support the teaching and learning of the subject to a high standard.

- Sharing her knowledge and expertise with members of staff across the school.
- Continually, and supportively, audit the standards of teaching and learning of DT across the school through lessons observations, book scrutiny, professional dialogue and pupil voice.
- Resource the curriculum to allow for a range of activities to take place in lessons.
- Invite, where possible, external visitors in to enhance the curriculum.

Assessment

Teachers' formative assessment takes place on a regular basis throughout each unit of work. This informs planning to ensure that the needs of all learners are met and that appropriate challenge is provided.

Equal opportunities

The teaching of DT takes consideration of the equal opportunities policy and inclusion policy. All children, irrespective of race, gender or ability, have access to the curriculum and are expected to work and achieve to the best of their individual ability. Modifications are in place, which cater to the individual needs of all children.

British Values

The DT lessons at Crofton Junior School are taught with respect of British Values.

Learning Environment

- Key Design Technology vocabulary is displayed in books that reflects new units of work. This supports the children with commenting on designs and products. More key vocabulary may be displayed on working walls to further support the children.
- Evidence of children's work is displayed on a changeable dedicated DT and Art communal display throughout the year. This will demonstrate progression of learning from year 3 to year 6.

- Resources for each unit of work are accessible within a shared, main store cupboard and are reviewed regularly.

Policy Review Date: June 2022