

Weaver Primary School



DT statement of Intent

It is our intent through our design and technology curriculum that we give our children the skills, knowledge, and opportunities to enable them to create structures, mechanisms, textiles electrical systems and food products. We aim to enable our pupils to learn these valuable skills and to acquire the essential knowledge which may lead them one day to become, amongst other things, engineers, architects, chefs, and designers

Implementation

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, or additional needs, to become successful. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children. All teaching of DT should follow the design, make, and evaluate cycle. Each stage should be rooted in technical knowledge.

The design process should be anchored in real life, with relevant contexts to give meaning to learning. While making, children should be given choice and a range of tools and materials to choose from. To evaluate, children should be able to evaluate their own and each other's products against a design criterion and to understand that the evaluation process is a supportive and necessary process that can lead to improvements. Each of these steps should be underpinned by technical knowledge and vocabulary.

DT should be taught to a high standard, where each of the stages should be given equal weight. The key areas we teach the children are:

- textiles (including sewing)
- cooking and nutrition
- electrical systems

- Structures
- Mechanisms and mechanical systems

D&T is usually taught in short blocks across a half term. Classes will usually cover 3 or 4 areas each year to build upon knowledge and skills taught sequentially year on year.

Impact

By the time children leave our school they will possess:

- An excellent attitude to learning and independent working.
- The vocabulary necessary to discuss DT projects and the design process
- The ability to use time efficiently and work constructively and productively with others
- The ability to carry out thorough research, show initiative and ask questions to develop knowledge of users' needs.
- The ability to act as responsible designers and makers, working ethically, using finite materials carefully and working safely.
- A thorough knowledge of which tools, equipment, and materials to use to make their products.
- The ability to apply mathematical and scientific concepts, knowledge, and skills accurately.
- The ability to manage risks exceptionally well to manufacture products safely and hygienically.
- The ability to adhere to the design, make and evaluate structure of DT lessons.
- The ability to sew, cook and construct basic products.

The knowledge and skills pupils acquire will be assessed against the curriculum end points outlined for each theme for each cohort. Pupils will be assisted in learning and retaining this knowledge by our systematic use of flashbacks and key questions at the start and end of each lesson and block of work.