

Bankwood Community Primary School

Design and Technology Policy

Design and Technology should help prepare children to join in our world's ever developing technologies. It should teach children to think creatively, to solve problems, to develop the ideas and thoughts of others or to create independently. It should help in creating realistic designs culminating in a final quality product. Mostly it should be exciting, inventive, creative, safe and fun!

Aims

Children should overcome faults and problems in designs or products

The children should discuss ideas and talk about how, why and what they are going to do to solve the problem

Find enjoyment in solving problems

Develop skills using a range of materials and techniques safely

Use and extend skills in Literacy and numeracy through measurements, scale and ratio, instructions, language development and evaluations

Teaching and Learning

The principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding in design and technology. Teachers ensure that the children apply their knowledge and understanding when developing ideas, planning and making products and then evaluating them. We do this through the schools innovative 'Enrichment Curriculum'.

Within Enrichment sessions, we give children the opportunity both to work on their own and to collaborate with others. They are encouraged to listen to other children's ideas and treat these with respect. Children critically evaluate existing products, their own work and that of others. They have the opportunity to use a wide range of materials and resources, including ICT (Flower Control).

In all classes there are children of differing ability. We recognise this fact and provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies:

- setting common tasks that are open-ended and can have a variety of results;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty where not all children complete all tasks;

- grouping children by ability and setting different tasks for each group; providing a range of challenges through the provision of different resources;
- using additional adults to support the work of individual children or small groups.

Teaching of Design and Technology

Design and Technology is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. At Bankwood Primary School, we use a creative theme for our curriculum planning in Design and Technology using the key skills given from the D and T coordinator from the National Curriculum covering 3 key areas Food, structure/mechanics and craft. Smaller projects are called Enrichment Challenge Activities and will follow aspects of the whole design process.

We carry out the curriculum planning in Design and Technology in 2 phases: long-term, medium-term. Our long-term plan maps out the themes covered in each term during the key stage through the curriculum overview.

We plan the activities in Design and Technology so that they build upon the prior learning of the children. While we give children of all abilities opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding, we also build planned progression into the scheme of work, so that there is an increasing challenge for the children as they move up through the school.

Special Needs and Disabilities

Pupils with special needs express themselves and develop confidence, as D and T does not depend on academic ability. Every opportunity is taken to celebrate the work of pupils through self and peer evaluation, display and assemblies.

Throughout school, care is taken to provide equal opportunities for all pupils, including Special Educational Needs and Gifted and Talented.

Assessment

Feedback to pupils is through marking of work which:

- Aims to be positive and constructive- next step
- is usually whilst a task is carried out through discussion between child and teacher

Assessment is mostly carried out informally by teachers in the course of their teaching. However formal records are made using the Key Skill school assessment grids termly to track whole school progress – in line with the expectations from the National Curriculum.



Health & Safety

It is important that children get to use a wide range of materials and techniques. The health and safety aspects of art and design form an important preparation for children for real life. They will be taught about the use of materials, tools and techniques in accordance with health and safety requirements. For example:
appropriate storage of tools and materials

Safe use of tools and materials

Staff will ensure that:

Careful supervision in small groups with some activities and materials where the risks are higher.

Materials are selected that are safe to use in schools, risks are carefully assessed and appropriate steps taken to minimise risk.

Equal Opportunities

As a school we are committed to ensuring that all pupils have equal access and opportunities in Art and Design, regardless of race, gender or disability.

Design and Technology Author – D.Edwards Approved by Governors –
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