



Mottram Primary C of E School - Design and Technology Policy

Intent

Design and Technology is an intricate part of our day to day lives and it is therefore important that our children are taught how this subject is of great importance in our rapidly changing world. Design and Technology encourages children to become independent and creative problem solvers and thinkers. Through the study of Design and Technology, they combine practical skills with an understanding of social and environmental issues. This allows them to reflect on and evaluate past and present technology, its uses and impact. It is an inspiring and practical subject, requiring creativity, resourcefulness and imagination. Pupils, working both independently and as part of a team, design and make products that solve relevant problems within a variety of contexts.

Aims and Objectives

- to give children the opportunity to take part in creative and practical activities
- to understand the importance of Design and Technology in the wider world
- to develop imaginative thinking in children and to enable them to talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making things
- to enable children to talk about how things work, and to draw and model their ideas
- to explore Computing as a means of design
- to encourage children to be analytical and critical when they are considering and analysing products
- to encourage children to select appropriate materials, tools and techniques for making a product
- to follow safe procedures when using equipment
- to explore attitudes towards the made world and how we live and work within it;
- to develop an understanding of technological processes and products, their manufacture and their contribution to society;
- to foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making things.



A wonderful and distinctive Christian school

Teaching, Learning and Planning

The teachers at Mottram C of E Primary School use a variety of teaching and learning styles in Design and Technology lessons. The sessions are taken from the Cornerstones Curriculum and adapted to suit the needs and abilities of the children. 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 evaluating them. We do this through a mixture of whole class teaching and individual or group activities. Within lessons we give the children the opportunity to work on their own and to collaborate with others, listening to other children's ideas and treating these with respect. Children critically evaluate existing products, their own work and that of others.

In all classes there are children of differing ability. We recognise this 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
- 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

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We encourage the development of skills; knowledge and understanding that help reception make sense of their world as an integral part of their school experience. We relate this development to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals. This learning forms the foundations for later work in Design and Technology. These early experiences include asking questions about how things work, investigating and using a variety of construction kits, materials, tools and products, developing making skills and handling appropriate tools and construction materials safely and with increasing control.

We plan according to the Cornerstones Scheme, whilst acknowledging the children's interests, and provide an enabling environment offering a range of experiences that encourage exploration, observation, problem solving, critical thinking and discussion.



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Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

We give children the opportunity to work together and give them the chance to discuss their ideas and feelings about their work and the work of others. Through collaborative and cooperative working the children develop respect for the abilities of other children and a better understanding of themselves. They also develop a respect for the environment, for their own health and safety, and for that of others. They develop a cultural awareness and learn to appreciate the value of differences and similarities.

Design and Technology and Inclusion

At Mottram C of E Primary School, we teach Design and Technology to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. Through our Design and Technology teaching, we provide opportunities for all pupils to make good progress. Assessment against the National Curriculum allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected outcomes. This helps to ensure that our teaching is matched to the child's needs, allowing them to make progress across the various areas of the subject over the years.

Assessment for learning

Teachers assess children's work in Design and Technology as they observe them during lessons. At the end of each term, teachers make a judgment using the school's assessment materials which are linked to the National Curriculum and The Cornerstones Curriculum. Children are assessed on if they are developing, secure or exceeding these key objective and skills so their skills can be developed the next time they revisit the area of the subject. Children are also encouraged to make judgements on how their work can be improved.

Approved

Review Date: