



Design and Technology Curriculum Statement

Intent

Design and Technology is an inspiring and practical subject which encourages pupils to think logically. At Kensington Avenue, we aim to teach pupils the relevant life skills that will enable them to tackle everyday practical challenges in a purposeful way. Pupils are encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to design and make products within various real-life contexts. Pupils learn to find solutions to problems independently and by working within a team. This includes the gardens, playgrounds, the local community and the wider environment. They are given opportunities to design, make for a purpose and use various tools and equipment. We provide opportunities for pupils to explore, reflect upon, and evaluate their D&T work and its effectiveness. Pupils learn to be risk-takers and innovators.

Implementation

At Kensington Avenue Primary School, to design, teach and assess design technology, we use Cornerstones platform. Cornerstones provides high quality resources, a thorough and progressive scheme of work, which sets out the skills and knowledge pupils require to fulfil the National Curriculum aims and beyond.

D&T is taught through the **Design, Make and Evaluate** cycle. Each project is based on a design and technology subject focus on structures, mechanisms, cooking and nutrition or textiles. Pupils are taught the knowledge, vocabulary, understanding and skills needed to design and make products. A variety of skills are taught during each stage. Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, children build up their knowledge and understanding of the iterative design process.

As design technologists pupils design, make, test and evaluate their products to match specific design criteria and ensure they fit their purpose. During the 'design' stage, pupils are encouraged to think creatively, use their imagination and explain their choices.

At the 'making' stage, pupils are provided with various tools and choices to carry out their projects.

At the 'evaluative' stage, pupils are encouraged to test their products and assess whether they successfully achieved what they initially intended. They can also try the work and products made by others to develop their understanding of the intended outcome further. The three-step cycle is evident in Learning Journey books, showing clear progression across the key stages. Where possible, meaningful links to other curriculum areas have been made. All the projects follow a structure where children are introduced to key concepts and build up knowledge and skills over time, using a more comprehensive range of equipment and building, cutting, joining, finishing and cooking techniques as they progress through school. Our Learning Journeys provide a contextual framework within which lessons are planned carefully to give pupils the opportunities to build and develop their skills. Throughout the projects, children are taught to work hygienically and safely.

Impact

At Kensington Avenue Primary School, to design, teach and assess D&T we use Cornerstones platform which we chose as it provides high quality resources and a thorough and progressive scheme of work which sets out the skills and knowledge pupils require to fulfil the National Curriculum aims and beyond.

High-quality design and technology education contributes to our increasingly technological world. There is complete coverage of all national curriculum programmes of study. Our curriculum offers clear sequencing of D&T aspects, concepts and vocabulary.

Outcomes in Learning Journey books, displays and learning Journey walls, all show evidence of the skills and knowledge pupils have acquired in D&T. Pupils reflect upon their learning journey and review what they have learnt, comparative to what they knew before. Through our curriculum for D&T, pupils learn how to take calculated risks, become resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable learners. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop an understanding of its impact on our daily life and the world beyond school. Essential life skills, such as learning how to cook by developing a deeper understanding of nutrition principles, are taught to remain with pupils for life.