

The Design and Technology Curriculum 2023 - 2024

Our Design and Technology curriculum aims to:

Intent

- Place reading at its heart by providing as many opportunities as possible for children to read in lessons.
- Lay the foundations that will prepare our children for the fast-moving world they are growing into and give them the knowledge they will need to take up roles as the designers and engineers of the future.
- Inspire children to be innovative and creative thinkers who have an appreciation for the product design cycle through ideation, creation, and evaluation.
- Develop children's confidence to take risks, through drafting design concepts, modelling, and testing and to be reflective learners who evaluate their work and the work of others.
- Build an awareness of the impact of design and technology on our lives and encourage children to become resourceful, enterprising citizens who will have the skills to contribute to future design advancements.

The Design and technology National curriculum outlines the three main stages of the design process: design, make and evaluate. Each stage of the design process is underpinned by technical knowledge which encompasses the contextual, historical, and technical understanding required for each strand. Cooking and nutrition has a separate section, with a focus on specific principles, skills and techniques in food, including where food comes from, diet and seasonality. The National curriculum organises the Design and technology attainment targets under four subheadings: Design, Make, Evaluate, and Technical knowledge. We have taken these subheadings to be our Primary strands:

- Design
- Make
- Evaluate
- Technical knowledge

It has a clear progression of skills and knowledge within these strands and key areas across each year group. Our Progression of skills shows the skills and knowledge that are taught within each year group and how these skills develop to ensure that attainment targets are securely met by the end of each key stage. There are six key areas that pupils revisit throughout their time in primary school:

- Cooking and nutrition
- Mechanisms/ Mechanical systems
- Structures
- Textiles
- Electrical systems (KS2 only)
- Digital world (KS2 only)

Pupils respond to design briefs and scenarios that require consideration of the needs of others, developing their skills in the six key areas. Each of our key areas follows the design process (design, make and evaluate) and has a particular theme and focus from the technical knowledge or cooking and nutrition section of the curriculum. It is a spiral curriculum, with key areas revisited again and again with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revisit and build on their previous learning. Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work including practical hands-on, computer-based and inventive tasks. This variety means that lessons are engaging and appeal to those with a variety of learning styles. Knowledge organisers for each unit support pupils in building a foundation of factual knowledge by encouraging recall of key facts and vocabulary. Strong subject knowledge is vital for staff to be able to deliver a highly effective and robust Design and technology curriculum.

Children following our Design and Technology Curriculum will:

Impact

- Understand the functional and aesthetic properties of a range of materials and resources.
- Understand how to use and combine tools to carry out different processes for shaping, decorating, and manufacturing products.
- Build and apply a repertoire of skills, knowledge and understanding to produce high quality, innovative outcomes, including models, prototypes, CAD, and products to fulfil the needs of users, clients, and scenarios.
- Understand and apply the principles of healthy eating, diets, and recipes, including key processes, food groups and cooking equipment.
- Have an appreciation for key individuals, inventions, and events in history and of today that impact our world.
- Recognise where our decisions can impact the wider world in terms of community, social and environmental issues.
- Self-evaluate and reflect on learning at different stages and identify areas to improve.
- Meet the end of key stage expectations outlined in the National curriculum for Design and technology.

Long Term Plan for Design and Technology 2023 – 2024

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS	Structures: Junk Modelling In this unit, pupils explore and learn about various types of permanent and temporary join. They are encouraged to tinker using a combination of materials and joining techniques in the junk modelling area.			Structures: Boats Children explore what is meant by 'waterproof', 'floating' and 'sinking', then experiment and make predictions with various materials to carry out a series of tests. They learn about the different features of boats and ships before investigating their shape and structures to build their own.	Food: Designing and making a rainbow salad	
Year 1		Structures: Constructing windmills Design, decorate and build a windmill for a mouse client to live in.	Textiles: Puppets Explore different ways of joining fabrics before creating their own hand puppets (aliens) Computing – Digital World Programming Beebots		Food: Cooking and Nutrition: Balanced Diet Design a wrap PSHE – Food – What constitutes a healthy diet?	
Year 2		Structures: Baby Bear's Chair Help Baby Bear by making him a brand new chair. Explore ways of building it so it is strong.	Science – Animals including humans – Food – Eating the right amount of different foods		Mechanisms: Fairground Wheel Design and create a ferris wheel so that the wheel rotates. Select materials to cut and join. DT Week - Textiles: Pouches	Mechanisms: Making a moving shark
Year 3	Food: Eating seasonally Discover when and where fruits and vegetables are grown. Learn about seasonality in the UK.			Structures: Constructing a castle Use configurations of handmade nets and recycled materials to make towers and turrets.	Digital World: Electronic Charms Design, code, make and promote a Micro:Bit electronic charm to use in low-light conditions Science – Food – Different food types and nutrition	
Year 4	Electrical Systems: Torches Apply scientific understanding of electrical circuits to create a torch, designing and evaluating their product against set design criteria			Mechanical Systems: Making a slingshot car Design and make the body of a vehicle using nets to create a chassis and make a launch mechanism.	Structures: Pavillions Explore pavilion structures, learn about what they are used for and investigate how to create strong and stable structures.	
Year 5	Electrical Systems: Doodlers Explore series circuits further and introduce motors. Investigate an existing product which uses a motor and work out how it has been constructed.		Computing – Digital World – Crumble Kits	Mechanical Systems: Making a pop-up book Incorporate a range of mechanisms and decorative features including: structures, levers, sliders, layers and spacers.	DT Week: Textiles: Make a stuffed toy	Cooking and Nutrition: What could be healthier? Create a healthy Bolognese sauce
Year 6		Textiles: Waistcoats for an evacuee Select suitable fabrics, using templates, pinning, decorating and stitching to create a waistcoat.	Digital World: Navigating the World Programme a navigation tool to produce a multifunctional device for trekkers. Create a 'pitch' to sell the product.	Science – Food – The impact of diet on the human body		Structures: Playgrounds Design, build and improve a variety of playground structures.

		EYFS (Reception)			
		Junk modelling	Boats		
	Design	 Making verbal plans and material choices. Developing a junk model. 	 Designing a junk model boat. Using knowledge from exploration to inform design. 		
Skills	Make	 Improving fine motor/scissor skills with a variety of materials. Joining materials in a variety of ways (temporary and permanent). Joining different materials together. Describing their junk model, and how they intend to put it together. 	• Making a boat that floats and is waterproof, considering material choices.		
	 • Giving a verbal evaluation of their own and others' junk models v support. • Checking to see if their model matches their plan. • Considering what they would do differently if they were to do it a • Describing their favourite and least favourite part of their model 		 Making predictions about, and evaluating different materials to see if they are waterproof. Making predictions about, and evaluating existing boats to see which floats best. Testing their design and reflecting on what could have been done differently. Investigating the how the shapes and structure of a boat affect the way it moves. 		
Kanudadan	Technical	 To know there are a range to different materials that can be used to make a model and that they are all slightly different. Making simple suggestions to fix their junk model. 	• To know that 'waterproof' materials are those which do not absorb water.		
	Additional		 To know that some objects float and others sink. To know the different parts of a boat. 		

Progression of skills and knowledge

		Year 1	Year 2	
		Constructing a windmill	Baby bear's chair	
	Design	 Learning the importance of a clear design criteria. Including individual preferences and requirements in a design. 	 Generating and communicating ideas using sketching and modelling. Learning about different types of structures, found in the natural world and in everyday objects. 	
Skills	Make	 Making stable structures from card, tape and glue. Learning how to turn 2D nets into 3D structures. Following instructions to cut and assemble the supporting structure of a windmill. Making functioning turbines and axles which are assembled into a main supporting structure. 	 Making a structure according to design criteria. Creating joints and structures from paper/card and tape. Building a strong and stiff structure by folding paper. 	
	Evaluate	 Evaluating a windmill according to the design criteria, testing whether the structure is strong and stable and altering it if it isn't Suggest points for improvements 	 Exploring the features of structures. Comparing the stability of different shapes. Testing the strength of own structures. Identifying the weakest part of a structure. Evaluating the strength, stiffness and stability of own structure. 	
	Technical	 To understand that the shape of materials can be changed to improve the strength and stiffness of structures. To understand that cylinders are a strong type of structure (e.g. the main shape used for windmills and lighthouses). To understand that axles are used in structures and mechanisms to make parts turn in a circle. To begin to understand that different structures are used for different purposes. To know that a structure is something that has been made and put together. 	 To know that shapes and structures with wide, flat bases or legs are the most stable. To understand that the shape of a structure affects its strength. To know that materials can be manipulated to improve strength and stiffness. To know that a structure is something which has been formed or made from parts. To know that a 'stable' structure is one which is firmly fixed and unlikely to change or move. To know that a 'strong' structure is one which does not break easily. To know that a 'stiff' structure or material is one which does not bend easily. 	
Knowledge	Additional	 To know that a client is the person I am designing for. To know that design criteria is a list of points to ensure the product meets the clients needs and wants. To know that a windmill harnesses the power of wind for a purpose like grinding grain, pumping water or generating electricity. To know that windmill turbines use wind to turn and make the machines inside work. To know that a windmill is a structure with sails that are moved by the wind. To know the three main parts of a windmill are the turbine, axle and structure. 	 To know that natural structures are those found in nature. To know that man-made structures are those made by people. 	

		Year 3	Year 4
		Constructing a castle	Pavilions
	Design	 Designing a castle with key features to appeal to a specific person/purpose. Drawing and labelling a castle design using 2D shapes, labelling: -the 3D shapes that will create the features - materials needed and colours. Designing and/or decorating a castle tower on CAD software. 	 Designing a stable pavilion structure that is aesthetically pleasing and selecting materials to create a desired effect. Building frame structures designed to support weight.
Skills	Make	 Constructing a range of 3D geometric shapes using nets. Creating special features for individual designs. Making facades from a range of recycled materials. 	 Creating a range of different shaped frame structures. Making a variety of free standing frame structures of different shapes and sizes. Selecting appropriate materials to build a strong structure and cladding. Reinforcing corners to strengthen a structure. Creating a design in accordance with a plan. Learning to create different textural effects with materials.
	Evaluate	 Evaluating own work and the work of others based on the aesthetic of the finished product and in comparison to the original design. Suggesting points for modification of the individual designs. 	 Evaluating structures made by the class. Describing what characteristics of a design and construction made it the most effective. Considering effective and ineffective designs.
	Technical	 To understand that wide and flat based objects are more stable. To understand the importance of strength and stiffness in structures. 	 To understand what a frame structure is. To know that a 'free-standing' structure is one which can stand on its own.
Knowledge	Additional	 To know the following features of a castle: flags, towers, battlements, turrets, curtain walls, moat, drawbridge and gatehouse - and their purpose. To know that a façade is the front of a structure. To understand that a castle needed to be strong and stable to withstand enemy attack. To know that a paper net is a flat 2D shape that can become a 3D shape once assembled. To know that a design specification is a list of success criteria for a product. 	 To know that a pavilion is a a decorative building or structure for leisure activities. To know that cladding can be applied to structures for different effects. To know that aesthetics are how a product looks. To know that a product's function means its purpose. To understand that the target audience means the person or group of people a product is designed for. To know that architects consider light, shadow and patterns when designing.

		Year 6	
		Playgrounds	
	Design	• Designing a playground featuring a variety of different structures, giving careful consideration to how the structures will be used, considering effective and ineffective designs.	
Skills	Make	 Building a range of play apparatus structures drawing upon new and prior knowledge of structures. Measuring, marking and cutting wood to create a range of structures. Using a range of materials to reinforce and add decoration to structures. 	
	Evaluate	 Improving a design plan based on peer evaluation. Testing and adapting a design to improve it as it is developed. Identifying what makes a successful structure. 	
Knowledge	Technical	• To know that structures can be strengthened by manipulating materials and shapes.	
Knowledge	Additional	 To understand what a 'footprint plan' is. To understand that in the real world, design, can impact users in positive and negative ways. To know that a prototype is a cheap model to test a design idea. 	

Progression of skills and knowledge

Mechanisms / mechanical systems

		Year 2			
		Fairground wheel	Making a moving monster		
	Design	 Selecting a suitable linkage system to produce the desired motion. Designing a wheel. 	 Creating a class design criteria for a moving monster. Designing a moving monster for a specific audience in accordance with a design criteria. 		
Skills	Make	 Selecting materials according to their characteristics. Following a design brief. 	 Making linkages using card for levers and split pins for pivots. Experimenting with linkages adjusting the widths, lengths and thicknesses of card used. Cutting and assembling components neatly. 		
	Evaluate	 Evaluating different designs. Testing and adapting a design. 	 Evaluating own designs against design criteria. Using peer feedback to modify a final design. 		
	Technical	• To know that different materials have different properties and are therefore suitable for different uses.	 To know that mechanisms are a collection of moving parts that work together as a machine to produce movement. To know that there is always an input and output in a mechanism. To know that an input is the energy that is used to start something working. To know that an output is the movement that happens as a result of the input. To know that a lever is something that turns on a pivot. To know that a linkage mechanism is made up of a series of levers. 		
	Additional	 To know the features of a ferris wheel include the wheel, frame, pods, a base an axle and an axle holder. To know that it is important to test my design as I go along so that I can solve any problems that may occur. 	• To know some real-life objects that contain mechanisms.		

Mechanisms / mechanical systems

		Year 4	Year 5
		Making a slingshot car	Making a pop up book
	Design	 Designing a shape that reduces air resistance. Drawing a net to create a structure from. Choosing shapes that increase or decrease speed as a result of air resistance. Personalising a design. 	 Designing a pop-up book which uses a mixture of structures and mechanisms. Naming each mechanism, input and output accurately. Storyboarding ideas for a book.
Skills	Make	 Measuring, marking, cutting and assembling with increasing accuracy. Making a model based on a chosen design. 	 Following a design brief to make a pop up book, neatly and with focus on accuracy. Making mechanisms and/or structures using sliders, pivots and folds to produce movement. Using layers and spacers to hide the workings of mechanical parts for an aesthetically pleasing result.
	Evaluate	 Evaluating the speed of a final product based on: the effect of shape on speed and the accuracy of workmanship on performance. 	 Evaluating the work of others and receiving feedback on own work. Suggesting points for improvement.
	Technical	 To understand that all moving things have kinetic energy. To understand that kinetic energy is the energy that something (object/person) has by being in motion. To know that air resistance is the level of drag on an object as it is forced through the air. To understand that the shape of a moving object will affect how it moves due to air resistance. 	 To know that mechanisms control movement. To understand that mechanisms can be used to change one kind of motion into another. To understand how to use sliders, pivots and folds to create paper-based mechanisms.
Knowledge	Additional	 To understand that products change and evolve over time. To know that aesthetics means how an object or product looks in design and technology. To know that a template is a stencil you can use to help you draw the same shape accurately. To know that a birds-eye view means a view from a high angle (as if a bird in flight). To know that graphics are images which are designed to explain or advertise something. To know that it is important to assess and evaluate design ideas and models against a list of design criteria. 	 To know that a design brief is a description of what I am going to design and make. To know that designers often want to hide mechanisms to make a product more aesthetically pleasing.

Progression of skills and knowledge

Electrical systems (KS2 only)

			Year 4	Year 5	
			Torches	Doodlers	
		Design	• Designing a torch, giving consideration to the target audience and creating both design and success criteria focusing on features of individual design ideas.	 Identifying factors that could be changed on existing products and explaining how these would alter the form and function of the product. Developing design criteria based on findings from investigating existing products. Developing design criteria that clarifies the target user. 	
	Skills	Make	 Making a torch with a working electrical circuit and switch. Using appropriate equipment to cut and attach materials. Assembling a torch according to the design and success criteria. 	 Altering a product's form and function by tinkering with its configuration. Making a functional series circuit, incorporating a motor. Constructing a product with consideration for the design criteria. Breaking down the construction process into steps so that others can make the product. 	
		Evaluate	 Evaluating electrical products. Testing and evaluating the success of a final product. 	 Carry out a product analysis to look at the purpose of a product along with its strengths and weaknesses. Determining which parts of a product affect its function and which parts affect its form. Analysing whether changes in configuration positively or negatively affect an existing product. Peer evaluating a set of instructions to build a product. 	
	Knowledge	Technical	 To understand that electrical conductors are materials which electricity can pass through. To understand that electrical insulators are materials which electricity cannot pass through. To know that a battery contains stored electricity that can be used to power products. To know that an electrical circuit must be complete for electricity to flow. To know that a switch can be used to complete and break an electrical circuit. 	 To know that series circuits only have one direction for the electricity to flow. To know when there is a break in a series circuit, all components turn off. To know that an electric motor converts electrical energy into rotational movement, causing the motor's axle to spin. To know a motorised product is one which uses a motor to function. 	
		Additional	 To know the features of a torch: case, contacts, batteries, switch, reflector, lamp, lens. To know facts from the history and invention of the electric light bulb(s) - by Sir Joseph Swan and Thomas Edison. 	 To know that product analysis is critiquing the strengths and weaknesses of a product. To know that 'configuration' means how the parts of a product are arranged. 	

Cooking and nutrition

			Year 1	Year 3
			Fruit and vegetables	Eating seasonally
		Design	• Designing smoothie carton packaging by-hand or on ICT software.	• Creating a healthy and nutritious recipe for a savoury tart using seasonal ingredients, considering the taste, texture, smell and appearance of the dish.
	Skills	Make	 Chopping fruit and vegetables safely to make a smoothie. Identifying if a food is a fruit or a vegetable. Learning where and how fruits and vegetables grow. 	 Knowing how to prepare themselves and a work space to cook safely in, learning the basic rules to avoid food contamination. Following the instructions within a recipe.
		Evaluate	 Tasting and evaluating different food combinations. Describing appearance, smell and taste. Suggesting information to be included on packaging. 	 Establishing and using design criteria to help test and review dishes. Describing the benefits of seasonal fruits and vegetables and the impact on the environment. Suggesting points for improvement when making a seasonal tart.
Knowl		edge	 Understanding the difference between fruits and vegetables. To understand that some foods typically known as vegetables are actually fruits (e.g. cucumber). To know that a blender is a machine which mixes ingredients together into a smooth liquid. To know that a fruit has seeds and a vegetable does not. To know that fruits grow on trees or vines. To know that vegetables can grow either above or below ground. To know that vegetables can come from different parts of the plant (e.g. roots: potatoes, leaves: lettuce, fruit: cucumber). 	 To know that not all fruits and vegetables can be grown in the UK. To know that climate affects food growth. To know that vegetables and fruit grow in certain seasons. To know that cooking instructions are known as a 'recipe'. To know that imported food is food which has been brought into the country. To understand that imported foods travel from far away and this can negatively impact the environment. To know that each fruit and vegetable gives us nutritional benefits because they contain vitamins, minerals and fibre. To understand that vitamins, minerals and fibre are important for energy, growth and maintaining health. To know that similar coloured fruits and vegetables often have similar nutritional benefits.

Cooking and nutrition

		Year 5
		What could be healthier?
	Design	 Adapting a traditional recipe, understanding that the nutritional value of a recipe alters if you remove, substitute or add additional ingredients. Writing an amended method for a recipe to incorporate the relevant changes to ingredients. Designing appealing packaging to reflect a recipe.
Skills	Make	 Cutting and preparing vegetables safely. Using equipment safely, including knives, hot pans and hobs. Knowing how to avoid cross-contamination. Following a step by step method carefully to make a recipe.
	Evaluate	 Identifying the nutritional differences between different products and recipes. Identifying and describing healthy benefits of food groups.
Knowledge		 To understand where meat comes from - learning that beef is from cattle and how beef is reared and processed, including key welfare issues. To know that I can adapt a recipe to make it healthier by substituting ingredients. To know that I can use a nutritional calculator to see how healthy a food option is. To understand that 'cross-contamination' means bacteria and germs have been passed onto ready-to-eat foods and it happens when these foods mix with raw meat or unclean objects.

Progression	of skills	and	knowledge
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Textiles

		EYFS: Reception	Year 1	Year 6
		Bookmarks	Puppets	Waistcoats
	Design	 Discussing what a good design needs. Designing a simple pattern with paper. Designing a bookmark. Choosing from available materials. 	• Using a template to create a design for a puppet.	 Designing a waistcoat in accordance to a specification linked to set of design criteria. Annotating designs, to explain their decisions.
Skills	Make	 Developing fine motor/cutting skills with scissors. Exploring fine motor/threading and weaving (under, over technique) with a variety of materials. Using a prepared needle and wool to practise threading. 	 Cutting fabric neatly with scissors. Using joining methods to decorate a puppet. Sequencing the steps taken during construction. 	 Using a template when cutting fabric to ensure they achieve the correct shape. Using pins effectively to secure a template to fabric without creases or bulges. Marking and cutting fabric accurately, in accordance with their design. Sewing a strong running stitch, making small, neat stitches and following the edge. Tying strong knots. Decorating a waistcoat, attaching features (such as appliqué) using thread. Finishing the waistcoat with a secure fastening (such as buttons). Learning different decorative stitches. Sewing accurately with evenly spaced, neat stitches.
	Evaluate	 Reflecting on a finished product and comparing to their design. 	 Reflecting on a finished product, explaining likes and dislikes. 	 Reflecting on their work continually throughout the design, make and evaluate process.
Knowl	edge	 To know that a design is a way of planning our idea before we start. To know that threading is putting one material through an object. 	 To know that 'joining technique' means connecting two pieces of material together. To know that there are various temporary methods of joining fabric by using staples. glue or pins. To understand that different techniques for joining materials can be used for different purposes. To understand that a template (or fabric pattern) is used to cut out the same shape multiple times. To know that drawing a design idea is useful to see how an idea will look. 	 To understand that it is important to design clothing with the client/ target customer in mind. To know that using a template (or clothing pattern) helps to accurately mark out a design on fabric. To understand the importance of consistently sized stitches.

Digital world (KS2 only)

		Year 3	Year 6
		Wearable technology	Navigating the world
Skills	Design	 Problem solving by suggesting which features on a Micro:bit might be useful and justifying my ideas. Drawing and manipulating 2D shapes, using computer-aided design, to produce a point of sale badge. Developing design ideas through annotated sketches to create a product concept. Developing design criteria to respond to a design brief. 	 Writing a design brief from information submitted by a client Developing design criteria to fulfil the client's request Considering and suggesting additional functions for my navigation tool Developing a product idea through annotated sketches Placing and manoeuvring 3D objects, using CAD Changing the properties of, or combine one or more 3D objects, using CAD
	Make	 Following a list of design requirements. Writing a program to control (button press) and/or monitor (sense light) that will initiate a flashing LED algorithm. 	 Considering materials and their functional properties, especially those that are sustainable and recyclable (for example, cork and bamboo) Explaining material choices and why they were chosen as part of a product concept Programming an N,E, S,W cardinal compass
	Evaluate	 Analysing and evaluating wearable technology. Using feedback from peers to improve design. 	 Explaining how my program fits the design criteria and how it would be useful as part of a navigation tool Developing an awareness of sustainable design Identifying key industries that utilise 3D CAD modelling and explain why Describing how the product concept fits the client's request and how it will benefit the customers Explaining the key functions in my program, including any additions Explaining how my program fits the design criteria and how it would be useful as part of a navigation tool Explaining the key functions and features of my navigation tool to the client as part of a product concept pitch Demonstrating a functional program as part of a product concept
Knowledge	Technical	 To understand that, in programming, a 'loop' is code that repeats something again and again until stopped. To know that a Micro:bit is a pocket-sized, codeable computer. To know that a simulator is able to replicate the functions of an existing piece of technology. 	 To know that accelerometers can detect movement To understand that sensors can be useful in products as they mean the product can function without human input
	Additional	 To know what the 'Digital Revolution' is and features of some of the products that have evolved as a result. To understand what is meant by 'point of sale display.' To know that CAD stands for 'Computer-aided design'. To know what a focus group is by taking part in one. 	 To know that designers write design briefs and develop design criteria to enable them to fulfil a client's request To know that 'multifunctional' means an object or product has more than one function To know that magnetometers are devices that measure the Earth's magnetic field to determine which direction you are facing