Lower Heath CE Primary School
Part of the Marches Academy Trust

church curriculum community

Design Technology at Lower Heath CE Primary School

Intent	
Our DT philosophy is…	We aim to provide children with a DT education that is relevant in our rapidly changing world. We want to encourage our children to become problem solvers who can work creatively on a variety of projects. We believe that high-quality DT lessons will inspire children to think independently, innovatively and develop creative, procedural and technical understanding. Our DT curriculum provides children with opportunities to research, represent their ideas, explore and investigate, develop their ideas, make a product and evaluate their work. Children will be exposed to a wide range of media including textiles, food and woodwork; through this, children will develop their skills, vocabulary and resilience. We want DT to enable children to develop and use skills acquired across the curriculum and to experience the relevance of each subject through completing a relevant project.
Implementation	
The curriculum for this subject area is designed using…	The National Curriculum Programmes of Study, alongside our 2-year planning cycle, and a membership with The Design and Technology Association.
Curriculum coverage in this area is progressive. We ensure this by…	We use our school-specific Design Technology Progression Framework to ensure that each area of learning is progressive from EYFS to Year 6.
If a topic is repeated in various year groups, we ensure that learning builds on prior knowledge by…	The Design Technology Progression Framework outlines the skills, vocabulary and materials to be built upon by each year group. This enables learning to be progressive and ensures that children consistently learn new skills appropriate to their ability and potential. Children will learn skills associated with: Cooking and Nutrition, Mechanical Control, Electrical Control, Frame Structures, Shell Structures and Materials.
This subject links with the rest of our curriculum by…	The skills required by DT link with all subjects within the rest of our curriculum. Weighing, measuring, recording findings, planning, research, problem solving and decision making are all key aspects that are weaved through our curriculum. DT enables children to use each of these skills and knowledge in a meaningful way.
Different year groups, and different abilities within a class, are catered for by…	By following the Design Technology Progression Framework, it is possible to ensure that different abilities and age groups are catered for. This may be by levels of support, choice of equipment available or by individual choice of project to be completed within the topic to be covered. Children will be able to practise a range of skills prior to completing their final project. This enables them to select the most appropriate method for their level of skill whilst still ensuring challenge is present.
Trips, visits and the local community support this subject by…	Trips to places such as Techniquest and local farms ensure that children have access to up-to-date relevant technology, information and equipment. Local catering businesses also provide knowledge and support to develop the children's learning in a 'real life' context.
The subject is monitored by…	Learning walks ensure that learning is progressive from EYFS to Year 6. The Design and Technology Association provides a Self-Review

	framework to enable us to evaluate our principles, curriculum and environment for learning DT.
The subject is assessed by…	Assessment takes place through teacher assessment, and children are closely measured against the outcomes expected from each unit, as at/above/below the expected standard.
Staff development in this subject includes…	Training for foundation subjects continues on a rolling programme of staff meeting sessions, with regular opportunities to liaise with teachers across the trust who deliver the same programme, and with DT specialists within the trust secondary schools. The Design and Technology Association also provides CPD to enable teachers to develop their skills and knowledge.
Impact	
In DT books, you will see…	Children record their ideas, plans, photographs, drawings, findings, prototypes and evaluations within their topic books for the term.
What is the impact of our DT curriculum?	Pupils at Lower Heath can evaluate the effectiveness of existing products to inform the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that are fit for purpose. They can confidently communicate their ideas in a variety of formats; selecting and using a wide range of tools, materials and components to perform practical tasks accurately and safely. As a result, they create high quality products and evaluate these against their own criteria, considering the views of others to improve their work.