KINGS HILL SCHOOL
PRIMARY & NURSERY

Kings Hill School
Primary and Nursery

Design & Technology Policy

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DT POLICY

Introduction

The school's Design and Technology curriculum prepares children to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world.

Creative thinking encourages children to make positive changes to their quality of life. The subject encourages children to become autonomous and creative problem-solvers, both as individuals and as part of a team. It enables them to identify needs and opportunities and to respond by developing ideas and eventually making products and systems.

Through the study of Design and Technology they combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, social and environmental issues, as well as functions and industrial practices. This allows them to reflect on and evaluate present and past design and technology, its uses and its impacts. Design and Technology helps all children to become discriminating and informed consumers and potential innovators.

Aims of the policy

The National Curriculum for Design and Technology aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world
- Build and apply a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high-quality prototypes and products for a wide range of users
- Critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.
- To develop the children's knowledge of tools and to encourage children to select appropriate tools and techniques for making a product, whilst following safe procedures.
- To provide a range of structured and appropriately-differentiated activities which develop a breadth of experience and progression in skills
- To develop knowledge and understanding of: materials and components; mechanisms and control systems; structures; existing products, and health and safety.
- To nurture creativity, design and innovation and become creative and autonomous problem solvers, as individuals and as part of a team.
- To develop ICT skills to allow children to program and control products, to nurture their understanding of mechanical and electrical systems.
- To reflect on and evaluate present and past design and technology, its uses and effects.
- To promote pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Intent

At Kings Hill School 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 shared project. 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 computer aided design (CAD); through this, children will develop their skills, vocabulary and resilience.

Learner Profiles

We have developed six learner profiles that fundamentally underpin our curriculum aims and design. These profiles encompass our values-based ethos, reflect the strengths of the school and are responsive to the needs of our community and the ever-changing wider world around us:

- I am a good communicator.
- I am knowledgeable.
- I am an innovator.
- I am an individual.
- I am a good citizen.
- I am emotionally intelligent.

Values-Based Education

The school has six core values developed by staff, pupils, parents and Governors. These six values represent the basis of values-based education at Kings Hill School and all other values are linked to them throughout the year such as compassion, loyalty, happiness, humility and trust. Our school values draw attention to key behaviours needed for children to become excellent learners and citizens. These are specifically taught through our curriculum and assembly programme.

Implementation

Throughout the school Design and technology is documented through portfolios, these are kept as they progress throughout the school. The DT Specialist teacher and class teacher uses observations and questioning as an indication to assess whether the children are meeting the expected standard for their age. This information is also recorded and kept as an indication to support future planning and the development of the DT scheme. We also encourage the children to self and peer reflect by giving constructive criticism within the lessons. When assessing teachers and children will consider vocabulary and the use of skills and knowledge.

Impact

At Kings Hill School we aim that, by the time they leave our school, our children will have a wide understanding which they will be able to use to create original, imaginative, inventive and distinctive designs and projects.

This will be evident through;

- Sewing skills.
- Food preparation techniques and meals.
- Creation of a range of mechanisms.
- Being able to use technology when planning and creation of a product.

Learning environment

Kings Hill School & Nursery has a wide range of resources to support the teaching of design and technology across the school. Classrooms have a range of basic resources, with the more specialised equipment being kept in the Design and Technology classroom. This room is accessible to children only under adult supervision. During lesson children are exposed to a wide range of subject specific vocabulary and encouraged to use this language both in written and oral forms. Tools and techniques are always explained using the correct terminology. A range of design work is displayed in the school to evidence how the children skills are built upon each year.

Inclusion

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;
•Leaders ensure all children are able to access the curriculum;
•Providing a range of challenges through the provision of different resources;
•Using additional adults to support the work of individual children or small groups

Equal opportunities

In accordance with the school's Equal Opportunities Policy, all children at Kings Hill School must be given full access to the National Curriculum. Staff will endeavour to help all children to reach their full potential irrespective of race, gender, age or ability. We strive to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to each child's level of ability. We have high expectations of all children and we believe that their work should always be of the highest possible standard. For further guidance refer to the school's Special Needs Policy.

Health and safety

It is important that children are taught essential life skills to enable them to participate confidently and safely in designing and making in society. Teachers have a duty to introduce children to a wide variety of production processes and the correct tools for the task. Children must design considering health and safety issues and consequences and operate in a safe and hygienic manner when designing. The subject leader, if required, supports teachers to teach the skills necessary ensuring that children can design and make safely.

Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body must ratify the D & T Policy. It is the role of the Subject Leaders to ensure that along with SLT the subject is monitored using a range of processes to inform the development of Design and Technology teaching and learning. The subject leaders will be responsible for the successful implementation of the policy across the school as a whole. They will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Design and Technology Policy meets the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Pupil voice is listened to and valued, having an impact on the teaching and learning of Design and Technology across the school. The subject leaders have a responsibility to raise the profile and the importance of Design and Technology amongst all staff and pupils.
It is the school's role to provide effective support for the Subject Leader's development of Design and Technology.

Review

The policy is monitored through:

- The subject leaders supporting colleagues in the teaching or Design and Technology.
- The subject leaders providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school.
- Regular scrutiny of children's work
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of planning
- Evaluation and analysis of assessment data
- Lesson observations to monitor the quality of teaching and implementation of planning
- Pupil interviews

This policy will be reviewed yearly.