

Curriculum Statement



Intent

Like our curriculum for art, it is important for children to see finished examples of products at the start of a unit of learning. This not only helps them to understand the steps to creating the product through disassembly but also to set success criteria for the making process. We believe it is important to link the products the children make, to their topic of learning. This makes learning more cohesive and meaningful, especially as the finished products are shown to parents in events like class topic showcases. We believe in valuing the children's work through display. Once again, discrete skills are taught and developed before being used to make finished products. We want children to be in awe of structures and technology and to have an understanding of how things work.

Implementation

Design and Technology taught at Princetown ensures pupils learn through a variety of creative and practical activities. We believe knowledge, understanding and skills are needed to engage pupils in an iterative process of designing and making. We encourage pupils through setting team and individual design and making tasks at school, in order to learn new skills, apply and build on knowledge. This therefore allows them to think outside the box to use a range of resources. Across EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, pupils are also encouraged to create digital designs, linking their ICT skills and knowledge, whilst remembering how to use technology safely. Within Princetown School, we acknowledge pupils use technology widely outside of school and therefore feel it is our responsibility to ensure pupils have the knowledge and understanding to enable them to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.

The children also have opportunities to develop their Design and Technology skills outside of curriculum time. Annually, they participate in either a Bake Off or Masterchef competition. They also often design for a purpose when asked by the local parish council.

We ensure that lessons are suitable adapted for children with SEND.

Impact

Though ensuring all pupils in our schools are educated by developing creativeness, technical and practical expertise, it enables them to perform everyday tasks confidently. We embed this through our curriculum maps specifically planning for a purpose within Design and Technology. We achieve this by striving to give every opportunity to solve real life problems and to consider alternative materials specific to a particular audience. At the end of each unit, we encourage children to be reflective and evaluate their designs. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, pupils develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world. High-quality design and technology education makes an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation.