Scholar Green Primary School – How do we teach design and technology?

Intent:

At Scholar Green Primary School design and technology should be fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to: fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for design and technology, provide a broad and balanced curriculum, ensure the progressive development of knowledge, skills and vocabulary, to learn how to take risks, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens through evaluation of past and present design and technology, develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world, to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world using the language of design and technology.

The aims of teaching design and technology in our school are:

- Develop creative, technical and imaginative thinking in children and to develop confidence to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.
- Enable children to talk about how things work and to develop their technical knowledge.
- Apply a growing body of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make prototypes and products for a wide range of users.
- Encourage children to select appropriate tools and techniques when making a product, whilst following safe procedures.
- Develop an understanding of technological processes and products, their manufacture and their contribution to our society.
- Foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making things.
- Critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products, and the work of others.
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and to learn how to cook.
- Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world.

Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) / Pupil Premium / Higher Attainers

All children will have Quality First Teaching. Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of pupil premium funding may have work additional to and different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. As well as this, our school offers a demanding and varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

Implementation:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in design and technology, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Design and technology is taught termly, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At Scholar Green, we ensure that design and technology is given the same importance as the core subjects, as we feel this is important in enabling all children to gain 'real-life' experiences.

The design and technology curriculum at Scholar Green Primary School is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England, which provides a broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills taught in each Key Stage. Teachers plan lessons for their class using the design and technology progression of knowledge, skills and vocabulary document. Teachers can use this document to plan their design and technology lessons suitable to their class's interests and what

they want to learn about. The progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and the skills, knowledge and vocabulary are progressive from year group to year group.

We feel very strongly that the sketchbook belongs to the child. It's not just a book - but is a space where children can freely express, create, develop and learn, often with limited guidance from the teacher. The sketchbook should be at the centre of their creativity. Therefore, class teachers are expected to only provide verbal feedback to the children.

When teaching design and technology, teachers should follow the children's interests to ensure their learning is engaging, broad and balanced. A variety of teaching approaches are used based on the teacher's judgement. Children showing extensive aptitude in design and technology will be celebrated in celebration assemblies which parents attend and an end of year curriculum assembly. These students may also have their work displayed in school and may win competitions that we take part in (Rotary Club etc.)

At Scholar Green Primary School we provide a variety of opportunities for art learning inside and outside the classroom. Every year we have an 'Enrichment Day' where the subject leader plans fun, engaging activities linked to design and technology for the children to enjoy. These activities should be guided by the children's interests in particular topics. The enrichment day also offers an opportunity for parents to engage with the school and join in with their children's learning.

Educational visits are another opportunity for the teachers to plan for additional design and technology learning outside the classroom. At Scholar Green Primary School, the children have many opportunities to experience design and technology on educational visits. The children have visited local museums, food establishments and had visitors into school to share learning and have hands-on experiences. In recent years, teachers have linked with local high schools to use their facilities, technology and expertise. At Scholar Green Primary School, teachers make use of the extensive grounds and outdoor learning area when planning for their students.

Alongside our curriculum provision for design and technology, we also provide all pupils with the opportunity to participate in DT based golden time activities.

Impact:

Within design and technology, we strive to prepare children to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world. We aim to encourage children to become creative problem-solvers, both as individuals and as part of a team. Through the study of design and technology, children combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, social and environmental issues, as well as of functions and industrial practices. This allows them to reflect on and evaluate present and past design and technology, its uses and its impact. Our design and technology curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. We focus on progression of knowledge and skills and discreet vocabulary progression also form part of the units of work.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice) and assessment of pupil discussions about their learning.
- Moderation staff meetings where pupil's sketchbooks are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers and subject leaders to understand their class's work.

- Reporting of standards across the curriculum during pupil progress meetings.
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum to parents.