

# Design and Technology Policy



Gwladys Street  
Community Primary and  
Nursery School

Gwladys Street Nursery and Primary School  
Design and Technology Policy

**Links To Whole School Aims**

We want our school to be one:-

1. Where everyone has access to an engaging, creative and challenging curriculum that promotes a love of learning.
2. Where everyone feels safe, happy and secure in our learning community.
3. Where everyone works in partnership with the wider school community.
4. Where Golden Opportunities are provided in an Inclusive Setting.
5. Where everyone respects each other and works as a team to achieve our GOALS.
6. Where children develop lively, enquiring minds, self confidence and independence.
7. Which promotes a healthy lifestyle and positive, spiritual and moral values.

**Mission Statement:**

Design and Technology, at Gwladys Street, is where children are encouraged to develop skills and knowledge of a wide range of materials and equipment through practical activities in a safe and controlled environment. Design and Technology is a part of every child's immediate experience. It is important that children are not only aware of what Design and Technology is, but also develops a practical approach to it which we encompass here at Gwladys Street.

Teaching of D&T enables children to design and create using a wide range of materials and tools; children then combine the skills, knowledge, concepts and values used by people to tackle the problems of living in our man-made world. When children can see the sense of solving real problems; learning is relevant.

**Definition:**

"Design and technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. Pupils learn how to take risks, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they 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."

**National Curriculum 2014**

**Aims and Objectives**

The Design and Technology Curriculum should be embraced by all and enable children to engage in meaningful activities.

We aim to allow children to:

- Participate in Design and Technology projects that are meaningful and enjoyable.

- Work with a range of materials and equipment.
- Develop and understanding of how tools are used and what materials are used for in regard to safety and accuracy.
- Develop and use appropriate vocabulary related to Design and Technology when talking about their work.
- Develop understanding of the design process by giving children the chance to make various design proposals, suggest ways forward and evaluate their own work.
- Develop children's understanding of the principles of nutrition and give children the opportunity to learn how to cook healthy foods.

### **Teaching and Learning of Design and Technology:**

Design and Technology at Gwladys Street is taught as part of the Topic curriculum and teaching is supported by the 'Projects on a Page' Scheme. The Design and Technology skills from the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage and are entwined within these topics.

The nature of Design and Technology as a subject intrinsically draws upon knowledge and skills in other subject areas. To support their design and making, we fit Design and Technology into the topics covered in each year group. Children will be encouraged to design, make and evaluate with increased independence. Design and Technology will be made relevant by using interesting starting points they can relate to as well as responding to real needs to ensure projects are meaningful. Design and Technology will be taught in each year group through the planning and teaching of Topic.

### **In the Early Years Foundation Stage:**

Children in the Foundation Stage access Design and Technology activities throughout continuous provision and are encouraged to construct with a purpose in mind using a variety of resources. Children are encouraged to be independent in their learning and staff encourage this through carefully planned activities and allow children to access a wide range of resources both indoors and outdoors. Children are regularly encouraged to reflect on their learning which closely links with the evaluating skills expected in Key Stage One and Two.

### **Inclusion and Equal Opportunities:**

Opportunities to access Design and Technology are available to all and through the topics, children can develop skills and knowledge in making and evaluating. Children bring different experiences and talents to Design and Technology. The qualities they already possess should be valued whilst opportunities for widening their experiences need to be created. We are committed to enabling each child to access the whole curriculum. Teachers provide learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of the children.

Activities within D&T are often organised in a practical and multi-sensory way, and different forms of communication and recording are used. There is also extended services and differing projects available to support gifted and talented and SEN children. These projects vary according to needs, interests and availability.

## **Assessment**

Assessment is an integral part of the National Curriculum and in relation to Design and Technology, teachers should assess pupil's achievements and their knowledge through the topics covered in each year group. Each topic starts with a Knowledge Harvest where children discuss what they already know about the topic and what they would like to find out. Assessment in D&T can be based upon accumulated evidence gathered from topic work and any programmes or projects that are supported externally.

The evidence can be in the form of photography, ICT work, observations and discussions (at each part of the design and make process), children's designs and experiences recorded in topic books and floor books. Assessment of Design and Technology should look at the child's ability to design, make, evaluate and their use of technical language.

## **Resources**

A central store of resources is kept in the Design and Technology area. The Creative Arts Co-ordinator will maintain and audit these resources. Specific items should be requested from the Creative Arts Co-ordinator with plenty of notice of the new topic. It is the class teachers' responsibility to ensure kits; tools and equipment are returned in a complete state or notify the coordinator of any deficiency. Children in all classes should be encouraged to bring in bottle tops, cotton reels, cereal boxes etc. for the central store. In addition, each class should collect their own stock of 'junk' materials. As far as possible resources should be recycled, off cuts of doweling, textiles, plastic tubing etc.

## **Health and Safety**

At all times, children will be taught how to care for and handle equipment safely and with respect in line with Gwladys Street's Health and Safety policy. As a school, we follow the advice from CLEAPPS, an organisation that supports practical work in science, D&T and Art. Teachers will also refer to the Design and Technology risk assessment in which hazards and risks relating to Design and Technology are laid out comprehensively. Training for Teaching Assistants and other adults, in use of certain tools, must be delivered by the class teacher prior to the lesson and safe practices should be understood by all.

When working with food, teachers and support staff should ensure areas are kept extremely clean and children are aware of simple personal hygiene rules. Tools which present a safety hazard, such as a glue gun or a craft knife, need to be secured away from general tools. Children need to be trained to use tools properly and in line with the Health and Safety Policy.

## **Monitoring:**

- Creative Arts Co-ordinator will monitor and update resources or order on request new resources when appropriate.
- Creative Arts Co-ordinator will monitor the teaching of Design and Technology throughout the school.

- Creative Arts Co-ordinator will monitor and evaluate external support and services where applicable.

Creative Arts Co-ordinator: Miss E Nolan

Date of Policy: March 2018

Review Date: September 2018