

St. Mary's Church of England Primary School Fownhope

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY



What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow

UPDATED MAY 2020

A rich education is more than simply learning reading, writing and maths. It is about helping a child grow into their full potential as inquisitive, well balanced and cheerful adults. As a Christian school we nurture children to display the 'fruit of the Spirit', which is "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). At St Mary's you will find children growing in mind, body and spirit as they form good relationships with each other, the staff and discover a faith which will sustain them in a rapidly changing world. As our motto has it: "what we nurture today flourishes tomorrow".

Introduction

Design and technology contribute to the school curriculum by preparing all young people to participate in a rapidly changing technological world. It enables them to understand how to think and intervene creatively to improve the world, combining their knowledge with understanding of aesthetics and function. It helps pupils become discriminating and informed users of products, and to contribute to home life and community.

Aims:

Children will be given the opportunity to develop:

- a critical awareness of designs and their influence on the made and natural world, and on different cultures and times.
- their practical skills with progression across all key stages.
- curiosity, imagination and ingenuity through personal involvement with ideas and materials.
- imaginative designs across areas of textiles, graphic media, construction (paper and card) and modelling materials, wood, plastic, metal and food.
- an ability to respond to a challenge, preparing them for their later lives in education and beyond.
- an ability to use IT to support their designing and making.

Curriculum organisation and content:

At St Mary's we aim to teach D & T through a cross-curricular topic approach, following the National Curriculum guidelines. Planning is based on our Intent, Implementation and Impact statement, mid-term planning and updated on our weekly summaries. The coordinator and headteacher review progression and ensure an appropriate balance of skills and topic across the classes.

Resource materials are kept in a centrally located cupboard and teachers order anything required when topics are updated, to keep ideas fresh.

Objectives:

Children will be taught practical skills necessary to achieve the above aims, including:

- ❖ the safe manipulation of materials and equipment.
- ❖ research, planning and communication. (visual and verbal)

Children should be encouraged to:

- ❖ set themselves standards
- ❖ work confidently with ideas and materials appropriate to their age
- ❖ evaluate and modify their ideas as they develop, building on previous knowledge and experience
- ❖ learn to work with others, becoming effective team members.

Children should be given opportunities to:

- ❖ identify needs and make decisions
- ❖ develop their communication skills in spoken and written word
- ❖ respond creatively to real design situations in the school environment
- ❖ evaluate constructively their own and other people's products.

Teachers ensure that activities enable the children to:

- ❖ develop, plan and communicate their ideas
- ❖ work with tools, equipment, materials and components
- ❖ evaluate processes and products
- ❖ apply their knowledge and understanding.

When planning, teachers provide opportunities for all levels of ability:

- ❖ Matching challenges to suit the individual

- ❖ Setting open ended tasks
- ❖ Grouping children accordingly
- ❖ Using additional adults to support individuals or small groups
- ❖ Setting extension activities for the more able.

Please refer to ‘Intent, Implementation and Impact statement’ for more detail.

Curriculum access

At St Mary’s we want to create a learning environment rich in resources that supports all children’s learning. Teachers will identify those children who require additional support with specific skills or with use of equipment. Use of a teaching assistant, working in a small group or with a partner will be planned into activities for curriculum access, where possible.

Assessment and recording

Teachers and the co-ordinator assess children’s work in design and technology through:

- recording progress against learning objectives.
- taking photos of work
- peer and self- assessment of children
- reporting to parents annually
- discussion and feedback from children and staff.

Health and safety

Risk assessments should be carried out by all staff before a D & T activity. (See school D & T risk assessments in Common Staff on computer.)

Equipment and the activity area should be checked beforehand. Children should be made aware of safety issues at the start of each lesson. Correct use of equipment use should feature in teachers’ medium- term planning.

In line with the school’s guidelines this policy will be reviewed every two years.

This policy was approved by the Governing Body on:	15 th May 2020
Signature of Headteacher:	T. Milne
Signature of Chair of Governors:	C. Moore
Review Date:	May 2022