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| ***“Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works.” Steve Jobs*** |

**DESIGN TECHNOLOGY CONSTRUCT**

**Aims and Objectives**

Design Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject, which makes an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation. In design technology, children 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. The knowledge and skills identified in the National Curriculum form the foundation of our curriculum content but we have developed this further to ensure that what children are taught, and the experiences that they are afforded, reflect our school vision and values.

We aim to:

* develop children’s subject knowledge in DT whilst also drawing on disciplines such as, mathematics, science, computing and art.
* develop pupils who can be risk takers, resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens
* ensure children ‘know more and remember more’ through gaining carefully selected knowledge and skills in a coherent, sequenced and progressive way
* ensure children are using subject specific vocabulary within discussion during every lesson
* inspire pupils to use creativity and imagination by developing their technical and practical expertise, allowing them to perform everyday tasks confidently and participate successfully in an increasingly technological world
* develop learners who are independent and evaluative designers, providing learning that is rich in opportunities to enhance their knowledge, skills and understanding
* develop pupils understanding of the principles of nutrition and apply this when learning how to cook for themselves
* overall, we want the pupils of Dowson to gain a creative perspective by using their growing knowledge to contribute when solving real and relevant problems in an ever-evolving world

**What Design Technology looks like at Dowson**

**Learning Connections**

Connecting learning is an important feature of pedagogy at Dowson. Therefore, each unit has been planned with opportunities to consolidate prior, relevant learning of knowledge and skills. Unit plans identify previous learning and other curriculum links to ensure conscious connections. Each Design Technology lesson starts with a ‘Connection Phase’ that reviews learning from the previous lesson, unit or year as appropriate.

**Research**

At Dowson, pupils will learn how to undertake research using a range of existing products and media to create interest. They will establish a context and purpose for their design and gain a better understanding of how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world.

**Designing and Planning**

Pupils will generate, develop, model and communicate ideas progressively from discussions and drawings through to annotated sketches, prototypes and computer-aided design.

**Making**

During this stage, pupils will have access to a range tools and materials in order to develop a technical skill whilst finding the best solution for their product. Throughout the making process, they will also have the opportunity to review and revise their design using the views of others to help finish their work to a high standard.

**Evaluate and Present**

Pupils will first learn how to evaluate existing products before evaluating their own final product against the design criteria and progressively test for purpose and functionality. Children will reflect on the purpose of products that solve real and relevant problems.

Throughout the process, specific vocabulary is taught, defined, used and safe practices, including food hygiene applied.

**Assessment**

Each Design Technology unit will conclude with an assessment of their final product that teachers can use to identify and assess the knowledge and skills acquired by pupils during the unit. Assessment of skills will take place during the teaching of the unit. Connection phases and formative assessments will be ongoing and inform short term planning.