Design Technology at Our Lady and St. Thomas Catholic Primary School

Part of the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Academy Trust

**Intent**

At Our Lady and St Thomas, Design and Technology (DT) forms an important part of the curriculum. We believe DT education stimulates creativity and imagination through problem solving and the production of quality products. Therefore, we believe that it should be taught as an individual subject as well as incorporated into other curriculum lessons where appropriate. Children will:

● develop the expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and participate successfully in an increasingly technological world

● develop their knowledge, and learn the techniques and skills needed to design and make high-quality prototypes and products

● learn how to critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products, as well as the work of others

● understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook

● develop an enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making

**Implementation**

All teaching of DT should follow the design, make and evaluate cycle. Each stage should be rooted in technical knowledge. The design process should be rooted in real life, relevant contexts to give meaning to learning. While making, children should be given choice and a range of tools to choose freely from. To evaluate, children should be able to evaluate their own products against a design criteria. Each of these steps should be rooted in technical knowledge and vocabulary. DT is taught to a high standard, where each of the stages should be given equal weight. There should be evidence in each of these stages in the DT books, which should also develop to show clear progression across the key stages as they are passed up through each year group.

In Key Stage 1, children will learn to design purposeful, functional, and appealing products based on specific design criteria. They will explore various methods of joining materials and create products using a wide range of materials. They will also develop their skills in using tools to cut, shape, join, and finish their projects.

Additionally, they will learn to evaluate products and suggest improvements to make them stronger, stiffer, and more stable. They will also gain basic cooking skills, focusing on preparing simple savoury dishes.

In Key Stage 2, children will learn to design purposeful products tailored for specific individuals or groups. They will develop their ideas through detailed planning, evaluating product designs, creating observational drawings, and making prototypes. They will also learn various joining techniques.

Additionally, they will make products using a wide range of tools, equipment, materials, and components. They will incorporate mechanical, electrical, and computer controls into their projects. Furthermore, they will design and cook food, focusing on savoury dishes.

**Impact**

We ensure the children:

•develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world

•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 and critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others

•understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook. Children will design and make a range of products. A good quality finish will be expected in all design and activities made appropriate to the age and ability of the child.

Children 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.