

Melling Approach to Design Technology

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Pupils design and make products, within a variety of contexts, using creativity and imagination, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. In all areas of Design and Technology the children are encouraged to consider the effectiveness of their designs and products, experiencing and applying skills in a range of projects. Children will develop their cooking and food preparation skills and will be taught how to apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating through planned COOKING AND NUTRITION units. Children will also complete a range of projects in MECHANISMS, STRUCTURES, TEXTILES, ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS and DIGITAL WORLD units.

INTENTION – Aims and Principles

- to deliver programmes of study for Key Stages 1 and 2 of the National Curriculum in Design and Technology
- to develop imaginative thinking in children and to enable them to talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making
- to enable children to talk about how things work and to draw and model their ideas
- to develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently to encourage children to select and use appropriate tools and techniques for making a product, whilst following safe procedures
- to explore attitudes towards the made world and how we live and work within it
- to develop an understanding of technological processes, products, and their manufacture, and their contribution to our society
- to foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making.

IMPLEMENTATION

Children will complete a variety of projects during which they will design, make and evaluate a range of products. Children will also build up a range of technical knowledge and a wide technical vocabulary, enabling them to confidently talk about their own and other's products. Lessons will be blocked into units and these will be completed termly.

Children will also be taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating. In Food Technology activities, children will be taught a valuable life skill whilst being given opportunities to express themselves creatively. Cooking and Nutrition units will be blocked but further opportunities will be provided for children throughout the school year, for example, at Christmas and Easter time.

INCLUSION

At Melling Primary, Design Technology forms part of a broad and balanced inclusive curriculum which provides all children with relevant and challenging learning. Through each topic or unit of work taught, suitable learning challenges are set in response to children's diverse learning needs. The school will encourage children to value Design Technology along with the work of designers and each other, rewarding both effort and achievement equally. Children's work will be proudly displayed throughout the school and on the website gallery, promoting a sense of pride and achievement at all levels.

ENHANCEMENT

In each year group, learning is enhanced through whole school Design Technology S.T.E.M. days, making those important links with the Computing curriculum. This will enable children to learn and apply their knowledge and skills devising algorithms to control models that they have constructed. Links will be made to oracy learning as children will be encouraged in their use of a range of vocabulary associated with the skills and knowledge they are building and displays will reference key vocabulary as appropriate.

IMPACT

Knowledge and skills

Children will follow a structured programme of skills development (based on the skills as outlined in the National Curriculum) and learning will be built upon systematically. Prior skills and knowledge will be recapped regularly and new knowledge consolidated whenever possible.

Assessment in Design Technology

Feedback is regular and ongoing during lessons and activities and will be given to the children to help guide their progress. Children will be encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their work. Teacher assessments will be judged against the progression of skills as outlined in the Focus Knowledge, Skills and Understanding breakdown for each class. Children will be encouraged to record ideas and plans for their work in their sketchbooks and in specific designs for projects, and this will provide further illustration of children's progressing skills.

Monitoring

The monitoring and evaluating of children's knowledge, skills and understanding takes place on an ongoing basis through a variety of work scrutiny and discussions with children. A webpage portfolio is regularly maintained to provide examples of children's work at a variety of levels and across the whole school.

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