

Design Technology – Intent, Implementation and Impact

“Design is as much a matter of finding problems as it is solving them.”

Bryan Lawson

Design Technology - Intent

At Thwaites School, children receive a design and technology curriculum which allows them to exercise and develop their creativity through designing and making. The children are taught to combine their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding in order to design and make a successful final product. Skills are taught progressively to ensure that all children are able to learn and practice in order to develop as they move through the school. Evaluation is an integral part of the design process and allows children to adapt and improve their product; this is a key skill which they will implement throughout their life. Design and Technology allows children to apply the knowledge and skills learned in other subjects across the curriculum, particularly Maths, Science and Art. Children's interests are captured through project design briefs, giving them purpose, motivation and meaning for their learning.

Design Technology – Implementation

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in Design and Technology, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Design and Technology is taught as a theme and links to cross-curricular topics, focusing on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At Thwaites School, we ensure that Design and Technology is given the same importance as the core subjects, as we feel this is vital in enabling all children to gain 'real-life' experiences and to provide maximum opportunities to embed deeper learning. The Design and Technology curriculum at Thwaites School is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England, which provides a broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills taught in each Key Stage. Teachers plan lessons for their class using our progression of knowledge and skills document. Teachers use this document to plan their Design and Technology lessons which link to their learning in other areas of the curriculum. The progression document also ensures the National Curriculum is covered and knowledge and skills taught are progressive from year group to year group enabling children to acquire knowing and remembering at a deeper level. When teaching Design and Technology, it is engaging, broad and balanced, providing a variety of opportunities for learning to take place both inside and outside the classroom.

Design Technology - Impact

The impact of our Design Technology curriculum at Thwaites School is that our learners become confident, innovative individuals, equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to successfully navigate the challenges they may face in our ever-changing world. Their knowledge and skills will develop progressively as they move through the school to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum and fully prepare them for the next stage in their learning journey. The children will be able to discuss their learning and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through a range of projects and final products.

