

Design and Technology Curriculum Statement

"Design is a funny word. Some people think design means how it looks. But of course, if you look deeper, it's really how it works." - Steve Jobs

The skills and attitudes developed in design and technology are an essential part of the primary curriculum, drawing on skills from diverse curriculum areas such as science, maths, history and English while also developing learning skills and attitudes that support these subjects in return. Design Technology (DT) encourages inquisition, imagination and reflection as well as promoting the engagement of children in practical, hands-on activities. It allows children to develop their problem solving, creativity and thinking, to make connections with their understanding of how things work and to use practical skills to create items that come from their imagination and analysis of others' ideas. Children are encouraged to consider economic, ecological and aesthetic issues when designing their products. Evaluation is an integral part of the design process and allows children to adapt and improve their product, which is a key skill across the curriculum and throughout life.

At Lapford Primary, the skills required for success in Design and Technology are taught progressively; building on prior learning. The youngest children in the Nursery and Reception are encouraged to use a variety of both large and small construction materials. Creating 'stories' around their constructions and naturally evaluating and modifying their designs. Early skills are practised in preparing and eating food. As the children progress through school, Design and Technology skills gain in complexity. Food preparation, joining an increasing range of materials and considerations such as users' requirements, practicality, strength, balance and aesthetic, economic and ecological considerations are gradually introduced.

At Lapford Primary School, children will be actively encouraged to explore Design and Technology as representation of cultural diversity and to use this to help their wider understanding of the world around them including their own and others' cultural heritage. Children are given the opportunity to explore and evaluate past and present design and technology, developing a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world. High quality Design and Technology education makes an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation.

In line with Lapford Primary School's emphasis on promoting oracy, children will be taught the correct vocabulary to describe, respond, evaluate and criticise their own work and that of the designs they are studying.