

DT Subject Statement

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"Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works." —

Steve Jobs

Intent

At Flitch Green Academy we believe Design and Technology enables children to learn about the world we live in and develop a wide range of knowledge and skills. We want to be able to develop designers, engineers and technologists and unlock their potential, designing and making products for a specific user and purpose. Design and Technology gives all children the opportunity to reflect on what they have learned through their practical exploration and then to use this knowledge to design and make their own product. It aims to encourage children to take risks, to develop new innovative designs and to be reflective learners by giving them opportunities to evaluate their own work, as well as the design and work of others within school and the wider world. It helps children to think through problems creatively, how to organise themselves, use knowledge and skills to bring about change, and to shape the environment. We want children to develop a sense of enjoyment and pride in their ability to make, and an interest and understanding of the ways in which people from the past and present have used design to meet their needs.

Children learn about...

- **Cooking and nutrition:** discovering where food comes from; creating a balanced diet; following kitchen hygiene and safety; developing preparation and cooking skills; following a recipe.
- **Mechanisms:** using cams, followers, levers and sliders to mimic natural movements.
- **Structures:** learning about the properties of materials; improving a structure's strength and stability; reinforcing structures.
- **Textiles:** using fabric techniques to fasten, sew and decorate.
- **Electrical systems:** creating electrical products using series circuits, circuit components, circuit diagrams and symbols.

- **Digital world:** programming products to perform tasks; developing 2D and 3D designs and models using CAD software.

We follow an inclusive and ambitious curriculum that supports all learners, including SEND pupils, to thrive.

Implementation

Our bespoke DT curriculum is built around rich, ambitious units from **Kapow Primary**, carefully selected and adapted to provide meaningful, connected learning experiences linked to class themes and the wider curriculum.

Key features of our implementation include:

Structured Learning Journey

- Lessons follow a consistent sequence: **Design, make, evaluate and technical knowledge.**
- Children show their progression through a project folder.

Progressive Skill Development

- Units are sequenced so pupils revisit and build upon prior skills and knowledge.
- Through Kapow our lesson planning adopts a spiral curriculum model; this is where key knowledge and skills are revisited and built on at a level appropriate to children's development.

Teacher Support and Subject Expertise

- Kapow's resources provide strong guidance to ensure teachers—specialist or not—deliver high-quality, well-informed lessons.
- Teachers meet with the subject lead to plan careful learning sequences and review age-appropriate skills and end points.
- Ongoing CPD supports teachers in deepening subject knowledge, assessment and feedback strategies.

Inclusive Practice

- Adaptations, multisensory techniques and supportive environments ensure all children, including those with SEND, can succeed.
- A focus on creative risk-taking builds independence and resilience.

Enrichment and Wider Opportunities

- Digital technologies such as augmented reality enhance children's engagement.
- Showcasing children's work to families and the broader community.
- We continue to build partnerships with deep schools and collaborate on projects.

Assessment

- Teachers use ongoing discussion, questioning and the children's evaluations to assess progress
- Assessment prompts align with our academy framework, capturing progress in generating ideas, making and evaluating.

- Moderation, lesson observations, planning meetings and staff–pupil discussions ensure consistency and quality.

Impact

By the time pupils leave The Flitch Green Academy, they will:

- **Have confidence in designing and making**, taking creative risks, solving problems and exploring ideas with curiosity and imagination.
- **Understand themselves as designers and makers**, able to talk with pride about the progress they have made and the skills they have developed.
- **Use a wide range of materials, tools and techniques** with increasing proficiency, accuracy, sensitivity and control.
- **Pursue ideas of growing complexity and depth**, using sketchbooks, design briefs and prototypes to refine, test and develop their thinking.
- **Demonstrate strong technical and design literacy**, understanding how Design & Technology impacts on people, society, culture, sustainability and the wider world.
- **Have expanded knowledge of designers, engineers, inventors and makers from diverse backgrounds**, understanding how their work has influenced the world around us.
- **Evaluate and analyse designs and products**—both their own and others’—with accuracy, sensitivity and confidence, identifying strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Work independently and collaboratively**, making informed decisions and demonstrating increasing creativity, resilience and problem-solving skills.
- **Apply their knowledge of materials, structures, mechanisms, electrical systems, textiles, food and digital technologies** to design and create purposeful products.
- **Talk enthusiastically about their Design & Technology experiences**, recognising the value of creativity, innovation, practical skills and problem-solving in their everyday lives and future careers.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through:

- Project folder reviews and school-wide moderation
- Teacher assessment is recorded termly on INSIGHT
- Pupil voice discussions and staff reflections
- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Planning reviews and collaborative evaluation

Through this approach, our children leave The Flitch Green Academy equipped with the creativity, resilience, confidence to contribute meaningfully to our rich and diverse creative world.