# Pool House Community Primary School

# Design Technology Policy

## Introduction to Design Technology

At Pool House Primary School, we believe that Design Technology is a way of allowing children to become innovators and designers. We want children to be creative, think for themselves and develop ideas throughout the design process that they can evaluate and improve.

## Aims

We aim to inspire our children to take risks, have fun and use their imagination. Design Technology will develop the creativity and imagination of our pupils as they design and make numerous products for different purposes and users. All children will be given the opportunity to develop a critical awareness of the made and natural world, of the environment, and of different cultures and times. They will be able to promote an understanding of the potential of, and expertise in, those activities that are involved in designing and making. As teachers, we want to foster curiosity, ingenuity and imagination through personal involvement with ideas and materials.

## Design Technology Process

### Designing Ideas

Children will need to be taught how to:

- Generate ideas for their product, discuss and clarify the task
- Plan, design and develop their own ideas
- Be creative and develop understanding of technical processes

### Making

Children will need to be taught how to:

- Cut and shape
- Join and combine
- Apply a range of finishes
- Think about the user and why their product will help – what is the purpose?

### Evaluate

Children will need to be taught how to:

- Critique their own work and the work of someone else
- Try it out and evaluate how they can make their product better for the user
- If it broke, how could they make it better?

## Planning DT

At Pool House, we deliver a creative curriculum for Design Technology and try to make cross-curricular links where possible in DT. We operate a planning procedure agreed by the whole teaching staff, based on the Programmes of Study and Statements of Attainment. We develop schemes of work and half termly plans which give details of appropriate activities and outcomes.

## Teaching Styles

A range of styles of teaching are necessary for the teaching of Design Technology. Approaches need to be related to the topic itself and to the abilities and experience of both teachers and pupils. Teachers will use a variety of creative and practical activities to teach pupils the understanding, knowledge and skills needed. Our aim is to engage children and allow them to think for themselves in a variation of ways. Our teaching at all levels shall include opportunities for discussions, practical work, and practice of fundamental skills and use of ICT. First hand experiences are important for the children of Pool House, so trips, outside visits, visitors and making use of our environment is an important factor for all staff.

## Equal Opportunities

The teaching of Design Technology will be in accordance with the present policy for Equal Opportunities. We aim to provide equal access to DT for those children with Special Educational Needs and those pupils who are particularly talented and require extension and/or enrichment activities, through small group work and through the use of Classroom Assistant (SSA/TA) help where available and or appropriate.

## ICT

Computers in school have appropriate software to support the teaching of Design Technology. Children will use these for researching before the designing phases. Computers also have access to the Internet to give further support.

## Evaluation and Assessment

Children's work and performance will be assessed according to the agreed school policy. Staff hold regular parents meetings and written annual reports are forwarded to parents in the summer term.

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