

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Intentions

At Mount Pleasant Junior School our aim in teaching Design and Technology is to equip our children with the technological awareness and capability to live in the 21st century.

D.T. is a vital area of the curriculum which gives practical experiences through a holistic approach, encompassing and extending skills and knowledge from other curriculum areas.

Objectives

- ◆ Investigate, disassemble, plan, make and evaluate products.
- ◆ Use their experience to develop their understanding of key design ideas and processes.
- ◆ Begin to think about models to represent things.
- ◆ Acquire and refine practical skills needed to investigate questions and develop ideas safely.
- ◆ Develop and practice identified skills and knowledge.
- ◆ Use scientific, mathematical and conventions, and draw diagrams and charts to communicate ideas.
- ◆ Ask questions and make choices about suitability of materials, tools and techniques when investigating a variety of products.
- ◆ Evaluate their work during the designing and making process and offer ideas for improvement.
- ◆ Read non-fiction and extract information from secondary sources such as reference books and CD Rom.

Strategies for teaching D.T.

A full D.T. activity provides the opportunity for children to design and make a product with a clear sense of purpose, trying out ideas, choosing a way forward, planning, making, testing a product and evaluating its effectiveness.

A variety of teaching strategies may be used, from whole class, group or pair work, to individual, depending on the resources available and the focus of the activity.

Teachers ensure that appropriate resources are readily available and accessible and that activities are differentiated where appropriate.

Equal access and outcomes

All children, regardless of their cultural, religious or educational needs will have access to the D.T. program.

Role of the Subject Management Team

Subject management team will:

- ◆ develop and update D.T policy and scheme of work as necessary.
- ◆ support colleagues planning, assessment and recording activities to ensure progression and continuity in D.T.
- ◆ take responsibility for resourcing the D.T. program.
- ◆ keep up to date with current initiatives and report and disseminate information to colleagues.
- ◆ develop annual action plan to ensure provision is enhanced and effective.

Monitoring of D.T.

The school development plan will identify areas to be monitored by the subject management team. Aspects of D.T. that are identified in other subjects will be monitored as opportunities arise.

Assessment

Assessment will be ongoing and used to inform the next steps of learning.

Recording and Reporting

The child's progress in D.T. will form part of the annual report.

Health and Safety

Teachers will ensure that safe working practices are taught and followed at all times. Where an activity poses a real concern, a health and safety form will be completed.