

Policy for Design and Technology

Introduction

- This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning at Skelton Junior School.
- It was developed during the summer of 2001 through a process of consultation with the working party.

What is Design and Technology?

- To develop the designing and making skills of each individual child, giving the children a structured approach to real life problems. It will encourage reflective thinking and develop skills with a range of tools and materials.

Aims

Our aims in teaching Design and Technology are that it will

- Develop their design and making skills.
- Create a high quality product through combining their designs and making skills with knowledge and understanding.
- Develop an understanding of technological processes, products and their manufacture and their contribution to our society.

National curriculum

- Design and Technology is foundation subject in the national Curriculum. The fundamental knowledge and concepts of the subject are set out in the National Curriculum where they are categorised into 3 programmes of study for each of the 4 year groups.

Strategies for the teaching of Design and Technology

- The mode of working is a mixture of class teaching, individual work and co-operative group work.
- Relevant discussion is encouraged.
- There is no specialist teaching in Design and Technology, it is taught by class teachers.
- Classroom assistants are used to help when available.
- Schemes of work are broadly based on the QCA scheme.
- Excellence in Design and Technology is celebrated in display.

Pupils with special needs

- Pupils with difficulties in learning are given differentiated work when appropriate.
- Pupils with a particular flair and ability for Design and Technology are given the opportunity to extend their knowledge and skills.

Strategies for ensuring Progress and Continuity

- The foundation for curricular planning is developed through a process of collaboration between staff, and approved by governors.
- Schemes of work are developed by the working party using QCA guidelines and adapted for the needs of the school.
- Work plans are drawn up by year group teams for each half term and monitored by the working party.

The role of the Design and Technology working party is to

- Take the lead in policy development and the production of schemes of work designed to ensure progression and continuity in Design and Technology throughout the school.
- Monitor progress by developing a portfolio of work.
- Support colleagues in their development of work plans and implementation of the scheme of the work and in assessment and record keeping activities.
- Take responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central resources for Design and technology.

Strategies for recording and reporting

- Topics studied within each year group are recorded on assessment sheets, which will indicate each child's understanding of the work covered.
- Children's performance is reported to parents termly at consultation evenings and annually through a written report.

Information Technology

- Information technology is an important resource to support Design and Technology

Health and Safety issues

- Risk assessments must be undertaken by staff prior to any visits outside the classroom. Teachers will be able to refer for guidance to the school Health and Safety policy, national guidelines and information given by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.