

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY POLICY

South Walney Infant and Nursery School



Approved by:	Board of Governors	Date: March 2025
Last reviewed on:	Spring 2025	
Next review due by:	Spring 2027	

- This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of Design and Technology at South Walney Infant and Nursery School.
- This policy will be reviewed every 4 years in the Spring term by the Design & Technology Subject Leader.

Rationale

Living in an area with a long tradition of Design and Technology (D&T) through local industry, such as shipbuilding, iron working industries and rural trades, South Walney Infant and Nursery School recognises the importance of technology for pupils of all abilities, as a subject which helps them prepare for life. In school, through D&T, we would hope to instil a life-long interest in the development of items of technological value to society through the creative use of materials. It is important that they consider how things are made, how they work and how they fit the purpose they were designed for enabling children to make real use of their skills and knowledge.

Aims

Through the teaching of D&T we aim to promote understanding and enjoyment and enable our children to:

- Learn how to think creatively and imaginatively.
- Talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making.
- Build on their early childhood experiences of investigating objects around them.
- Explore how familiar things work.
- Learn to talk about, draw and model their ideas.
- Develop, plan and communicate their ideas.
- Learn how to incorporate ICT into their design and learning.
- Learn how to design and make their product safely.
- Be able to work with equipment, materials, tools and components to make quality products.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of materials and components.
- Evaluate the processes and their end product.
- Develop confidence and enthusiasm in D&T.

Strategies

We seek to meet these aims by using the following strategies:

- We use the National Curriculum as the basis of DT. Three units will be covered by each year group ensuring breadth and balance of opportunities within this curricular area. Links will be identified wherever possible to other areas of the curriculum, i.e. D&T-Vehicles with Science-Forces and Movement.

- Children will be taught to generate ideas by calling on their own, and others experiences. They will develop these ideas through discussion and putting together components. They will plan by suggesting and developing ideas using a variety of methods, including drawing and making models.
 - The children will be taught to select tools, techniques and materials suitable for making their products from a range chosen through exploration and suggestion from the teacher.
 - The children will explore different finishing techniques to improve the appearance of their product, using a range of equipment.
 - Children will be taught to follow health and safety procedures within all areas of D&T, including food hygiene.
 - The children will be encouraged to talk about their ideas, saying what they like and dislike. They will be encouraged to identify modifications, improvements and changes to their work.
 - The children will be taught and encouraged to explore the working characteristics of materials, i.e. folding paper to make it stiffer. They will also learn how mechanisms can be used in different ways, i.e. wheels and axles.
 - The children will investigate and evaluate a range of familiar products, talking about how they work and whether they do what they are supposed to do. They will work on focused practical tasks that develop a range of techniques, skills, processes and knowledge.
 - They will design and make products using a range of materials, including food, textiles and items that can be put together.
- In Early Years, children will be provided with a wide range of D&T related experiences. Including :
 - asking questions about how things work
 - talking about what they are doing and what they have discovered
 - learning about a variety of customs and culture
 - responding to drawings and pictures
 - investigating and using a variety of construction kits, materials, and tools.
 - using a range of materials to express ideas
 - exploring colour, shape, texture and form
 - selecting their own resources
 - developing making skills (cutting, folding, mixing, joining, building) for a variety of purposes
 - handling appropriate tools and construction materials safely and with increasing control

Progression

The D&T scheme provides a detailed framework for each year group which ensures progression within KS1.

Delivery

D&T is taught as a specific subject, in order to develop specific skills, knowledge and understanding. Where appropriate, it is also used as a means through which children can learn about other areas of the curriculum.

Health, Safety and Hygiene

It is important that pupils are taught essential life skills to enable them to participate confidently and safely in designing and making. Teachers have a duty to introduce pupils to a wide variety of production processes and the correct tools for the task.

Pupils will be taught to design considering health and safety issues and the consequences and operate in a safe and hygienic manner when designing.

Appropriate risk assessments are undertaken.

Assessment Recording and Reporting

Refer to Assessment Policy.

Subject Leader's Role

The subject leader is responsible for:

- monitoring and evaluating teaching and learning in D&T
- managing resources
- updating schemes of work and policy
- advising colleagues in planning, implementation and assessment
- attending meetings to keep abreast of curriculum developments.

South Walney Infant & Nursery School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability