

# Ladywood Primary School



Design Technology  
Policy  
February 2026

## **Design Technology Intent**

The intent of the Design Technology curriculum at Ladywood is to develop the ability to design, make and evaluate projects and creations. It is our intention that the Design and Technology curriculum will inspire children through a range of practical experiences to create projects, which solve problems in a variety of contexts. The Design Technology curriculum will show the impact of design and technology in the past and the children's own lives and help to inspire future innovators. We aim for pupils to learn about structures, mechanisms, textiles, cooking and nutrition and how these can be implemented in their own lives. Pupils will safely handle tools and equipment when preparing food and creating their own projects.

## **Aims**

The National Curriculum for Design and Technology aims to ensure that all pupils:

- develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world;
- build and apply a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high-quality prototypes and products for a wide range of users;
- critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others;
- understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

## **Implementation**

In Foundation Stage, we plan from the 'Physical Development', 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' and 'Expressive Arts and Design' areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children have the opportunity to use the skills that they develop in DT during continuous provision in school.

In KS1 and KS2, class teachers are responsible for the delivery of DT. We have developed our curriculum using guidance from the Design and Technology Association, Public Health England, The British Nutrition Foundation and the Food Standards Agency taking into account the age, needs, and experiences of our pupils. Our curriculum is designed to meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum. DT is taught both discretely and within other curriculum areas.

In EYFS and KS1, DT is promoted through a love of reading. Children read picture books where there is an invention or inventor. Children may also learn about a famous inventor or invention that relates to their current project. In KS2, children gain a knowledge and understanding of inventors and inventions that have helped influence and change the world we live in today.

At Ladywood, Design and Technology is taught in blocks which allows for more effective learning in which teachers can focus on design and technology knowledge and skills. Design Technology curriculum focuses on five core areas including:

- Structures
- Mechanisms and Mechanical Systems
- Textiles
- Cooking and Nutrition
- Electrical Systems (Key Stage Two only)

Cooking and Nutrition is taught once a year and skills are developed in the following year. Each year group will then be taught two other areas of DT where they will gain new knowledge and skills. Over the course of a Key Stage, each area will have been taught and assessed at least once in KS1 and twice in KS2. An area of DT will be taught each term so that there is one area in the Autumn Term, one in the Spring Term and one in the Summer Term. Each area will be taught in a discrete DT lesson which can be taught over the course of one week or several weeks depending on what is relevant for each year group and their timetable.

### **Resources**

All classes have access to the Design and Technology materials and equipment which is located in a central store in school. This must be returned after use.

### **Impact**

Foundation Stage children's development may be documented in their learning journeys by work samples or photographic evidence may be taken. This is then tracked using the online system, Educator.

In KS1 and KS2, a record of children's DT work is in their individual Design Technology books. Evidence of each stage of the DT process (design, make and evaluate) is shown in the individual's book. DT will be assessed through Impact Assessment Trackers where key skills and

knowledge is measured during each taught area. Projects created can be assessed either by self-review, peer-review or teacher-review.

Children will be able to effectively explain how they have made their project and why they have made certain choices during the design, make and evaluate process. This will be evidenced in their work and pupil interviews.

### **Health and Safety**

As Design and Technology involves the use of potentially dangerous tools, pupils and teachers must be aware of the safety requirements. Certain tools may need their own risk assessment. Direct safety instructions will be given to pupils each time they undertake a Design and Technology activity involving the use of tools, which will be at the discretion of the class teacher. Pupils must be encouraged to report possible safety hazards to a class adult who will deal with this appropriately.

During every DT practical lesson:

- all loose clothing and long hair must be secured or removed prior to using tools;
- small groups of children will be supervised by an adult when using equipment;
- tools must be stored carefully whilst in the classroom and returned by the teacher to the storage area after the lesson;
- resources, not being used during the DT lesson, will be cleared away so that the classroom and work surfaces are free from any hazards.

Please see the Food Policy for more information on Health and Safety when teaching Cooking and Nutrition.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### **Design Technology co-ordinator**

It is the responsibility of the co-ordinator to:

- liaise with other members of staff;
- arrange training support for teaching and non-teaching staff;
- ensure continuity, progression and appropriateness;
- gather, organise and circulate information and resources;

- actively promote principles of Design Technology within school;
- ensure resources are ordered and put away correctly.

### **Staff**

Staff are responsible for:

- delivering the Design Technology curriculum;
- modelling positive attitudes to DT;
- monitoring progress;
- responding to the needs of individual pupils;
- ensuring that they have the equipment they need to teach DT.

### **Pupils**

Pupils are expected to engage fully in the Design Technology lesson and follow any rules to ensure they are safe at all times.

### **Monitoring**

The DT co-ordinator will monitor DT by collecting evidence e.g. photographs, monitoring curriculum files, lesson plans and pupil interviews. The DT co-ordinator will also make sure that the school is well resourced in order for class teachers to be able to teach DT.

**Signed:** Mrs N Rossell

**Date:** February 2026