

The Whitchurch CE Federation

The Inquisitive Me – Design and Technology



“Enjoy failure and learn from it. You can never learn from success” James Dyson

Intent

Design and Technology plays an integral role in the development of the Inquisitive Me at The Whitchurch CE Federation. Through high-quality teaching, pupils at The Whitchurch CE Federation develop skills and knowledge to allow them to satisfy their curiosity about the world around them and begin to find solutions to real-world problems. They understand that products and solutions are created by following a process of testing, evaluation and adjustment. Our children understand that mistakes are crucial to the development of people and product. Children are encouraged to be creative in their problem solving whilst maintaining a clear idea of who they are designing and making products for, considering their needs, wants, interests or preferences.

Implementation

The Design and Technology Association's Projects on a Page scheme is delivered across the Federation. High-quality projects encourage innovation that lead to a range of design ideas and products being developed, characterised by engaging, open-ended starting points for children's learning. Children have the opportunity to design and make products that are believable, real and meaningful to themselves. The five aspects of the subject (Structures, Food, Textiles, Mechanisms, Electrical Systems) are taught on a two-year cycle. Children receive the breadth of learning required by the National Curriculum and increase their knowledge, understanding and skills over time.

The early learning goals for Expressive Arts and Design indicate what children should know, understand and be able to do by the end of the reception year. A significant proportion of this learning should be delivered through high quality D&T experiences and activities, enabling children to 'safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function' and 'use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes'. D&T also makes an important contribution to young children's learning across the remaining six areas of the EYFS framework, including Understanding the World, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, and Communication and Language.

Impact

Our children will progress to KS3 with the confidence, skills and knowledge they need to understand and contribute to the wider world. They will be resilient learners who confidently face the challenges and mistakes that accompany the design and making process.

The impact of the curriculum is measured by:

- Pupil Voice discussions of their learning with the subject leader
- Teacher assessments, completed at the end of each project
- Regular lesson observations and learning walks