

Design and Technology



Our Offer

At St Peter's our Design and Technology curriculum encourages pupils to be creative and practical designers. We celebrate creativity and ingenuity in design and give pupils opportunities to solve problems in increasingly challenging contexts as they progress through the school. Pupils are taught to evaluate and test their ideas.

The DT syllabus is closely linked to the wider school curriculum and supports pupils to make links across different subject areas such as art, history, science, maths, RE and writing composition. There are also many opportunities for design and creativity in the outdoor environment classes.

The curriculum teaches pupils to work both individually and collaboratively. They are encouraged to learn from their mistakes and build their resilience.

As a school we are working towards achieving the Arts Mark Gold Award, having already received the Silver Award. Through this initiative pupils learn to reflect and think critically about their own and others' work.

Pupil Experience

Throughout Key Stage 1 and 2 we follow the National curriculum programme of study, teaching 3 topics per year.

Our Design and Technology curriculum builds skills and knowledge progressively throughout the school. From Reception onwards children are encouraged to experiment with a range of different construction materials. They are taught to join and bind different materials such as fabric, wood, wire and recyclable materials to create their final models and products.

As pupils progress through the school they are expected to be able to use a broader range of materials and methods to create designs which follow a brief. They are encouraged to research solutions and different design ideas to produce their own work.

Across Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils are introduced to different mechanisms such as wheel axles and cams. This demonstrates how different movements can be generated. They learn to use different tools and equipment.

In every year group we teach cooking and nutrition as part of the DT curriculum. This encourages children to think about the food they eat and from where it has been sourced. This imparts valuable life skills such as cooking for themselves. The curriculum is supported by non-curriculum cookery which develops their skills further and introduces recipes which link with other subject areas.

We encourage pupils to become involved in community and national design projects. Each year, pupils enter the Lions' ROAR project (Children Changing the World), and the winning group pitches their prototype to a regional audience live (or online more recently). During this event, they also have a chance to assess the ideas and designs of pupils from other schools.

In 2022, some pupils participated in the Farnham Young Enterprise Market in the town centre, with one group winning first prize for their creativity, product and sales pitch.



What is the impact on pupils going forward?

Design and Technology is an inspiring, creative and practical subject. It helps develop children's fine motor skills and allows them to understand how objects work, but it also encourages them to think creatively and critically. It expands pupils' vocabulary and introduces them to designs that have shaped our cultural history and global developments. It inspires exploratory thinking and ways to evaluate objects in everyday life. It is about the world they live in.

When pupils leave St Peter's, they will have experienced the joy and satisfaction of designing and creating using different materials. Some will be inspired by having learnt to cook safely and creatively while others may be mesmerised by the application of design and its power to make a difference to people's lives around the world through innovation in design, textiles, structures and mechanics.

