

## **Design and Technology Curriculum Principles**

### **1. Our curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all children (EDI)**

#### **Ensures all children can access and participate in Design and Technology**

Our Design and Technology curriculum is designed so that every child can engage in designing, making, evaluating and understanding products and systems. Learning is carefully sequenced so that children progressively develop practical skills, technical knowledge and creative thinking. Adaptive teaching ensures that children of all abilities can participate fully in practical activities and develop confidence in designing and making.

#### **Reflects a wide range of designers, inventors and engineers**

The curriculum introduces children to influential designers, engineers and innovators from a range of backgrounds, cultures and historical periods. By exploring diverse contributions to design and technology, children recognise that innovation and creativity come from people across the world and from different communities.

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### **2. Our curriculum reflects the society children live in**

#### **Connects learning to real-world problems and everyday products**

The curriculum helps children understand how design and technology shapes the world around them. Children investigate familiar products and systems and learn how design solutions are developed to solve real-life problems. Through purposeful design tasks, children apply their knowledge to meaningful contexts that reflect everyday life.

#### **Explores how technology influences society**

Children learn how technological developments influence how people live, work and communicate. They explore how products are designed, manufactured and improved over time, developing an understanding of the relationship between design, innovation and societal change.

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### **3. Our curriculum broadens horizons and builds cultural capital**

#### **Introduces children to a wide range of design fields**

Through a broad and balanced curriculum, children experience different areas of design and technology, including product design, structures, textiles, mechanisms, electrical systems and food technology. This breadth helps children understand the wide range of careers and creative opportunities connected to design and technology.

### **Encourages creative thinking and problem-solving**

Children learn to generate ideas, test prototypes and evaluate solutions. Through practical design challenges, they develop resilience, creativity and critical thinking. These experiences help children build confidence in their ability to innovate and solve problems.

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## **4. Our curriculum promotes a safe and supportive environment for practical learning**

### **Creates a safe environment for practical work**

Design and Technology lessons prioritise safe working practices. Children learn how to use tools, materials and equipment responsibly, developing an understanding of safety procedures and risk awareness. Teachers model safe practice and support children in working confidently and responsibly during practical activities.

### **Encourages collaboration and respect in practical tasks**

Many design tasks involve teamwork and shared problem-solving. Children are encouraged to listen to others' ideas, collaborate effectively and support one another when designing and making. This helps create a respectful learning environment where all children can contribute to creative projects.

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## **5. Our curriculum promotes equality and challenges stereotypes**

### **Challenges stereotypes in design and engineering**

The curriculum actively challenges stereotypes about who works in design, engineering and technology. Children learn about a diverse range of designers, inventors and engineers, helping them understand that creativity, technical skill and innovation are not limited by gender, background or identity.

### **Promotes respect for different design perspectives**

Children explore how different cultures and communities influence design choices, materials and aesthetics. By studying a variety of design approaches and traditions, children develop respect for different perspectives and understand that design reflects the needs and values of the people who create and use products.