Design Technology

Curriculum Intent

"Design is a funny word. Some people think design means how it looks.
But of course, if you look deeper, it's really how it works."
Steve Jobs

"Technology makes possibilities. Design makes solutions."
John Maeda

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Design and Technology encourages children to learn to think and intervene creatively to solve problems both as individuals and as members of a team. We believe that it helps to prepare children for the developing world and encourages them to become curious and creative problem-solvers, both as individuals and as part of a team.

At Green Ridge, we encourage children to use their creativity and imagination, to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. We aim to, wherever possible, link work to other disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. The children are also given opportunities to reflect upon and evaluate past and present design technology, its uses and its effectiveness and are encouraged to become innovators and risk-takers.

Through the study of Design and Technology, pupils combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, social and environmental issues. Design and Technology helps all children to become discerning and informed consumers and potential innovators. It provides children with a greater awareness and understanding of how everyday products are designed and made.

Aims of Design Technology
To national curriculum (2014) 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

At Green Ridge, we interpret the national curriculum and deliver the following aims which are summarised here:
- to develop imaginative thinking in children and to enable them to talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making;
- to enable children to talk about how things work, and to draw and model their ideas;
- to encourage children to select appropriate tools and techniques for making a product, whilst following safe procedures;
- to foster enjoyment, satisfaction and purpose in designing and making;
- to use ICT software to assist our designing and learning.

In summary...

Design Technology prepares children to deal with tomorrow's rapidly changing world. It encourages children to become independent, creative problem-solvers and thinkers as individuals and as part of a team - making positive changes to their quality of life. It enables them to identify needs and opportunities and to respond to them by developing a range of ideas and by making products and systems.