

The teaching of Design and Technology supports the following areas of the Curriculum Vision for Overfields Primary School

To have secure basic skills in maths and English

Design and technology is a practical subject but it lends itself enormously to the development of basic maths and English skills. Maths subjects such as measure, ratio and fractions as well as the skills of accurate technological drawing and construction relate well to the design and build aspect of DT. No DT project is complete without some element of presentation and evaluation whether given verbally or in writing. The subject also includes a lot of specific vocabulary that relate clearly to 'real life' situations in adulthood.

To have a love of reading

Engineers built the world within which the children live. Every aspect of their lives is influenced by significant contributions all the way from early Egyptian technology, through celebrated engineers such as Brunel through to the games designers and visionaries developing tomorrow's technology. These people are great subjects for reading, linking the worlds of technology, history and social development.

To stay healthy and safe

Design and technology is about creating solutions to real-life problems. There are numerous opportunities to develop the skills required through today's requirements to stay safe and stay healthy. Maintaining good health can be practised through the development of products linked to nutrition and diet, and staying safe through carefully planned topics, relevant to a pupil's own stage of development.

To be aspirational

Design and Technology is the foundation for the development of the world's engineers, problem solvers and entrepreneurs. It is important that the links from the tasks set for children through to the outstanding engineering and technology of today are made clear. The multitude of careers in the engineering sector and the routes to them need to be highlighted and discussed with children together with the enormous industrial heritage of their own town.

To be respectful and caring

The idea of creating a solution to a problem for someone else can be a significant vehicle to develop respect, understanding and tolerance. The idea that technology can help in providing support and care for others should be made clear to the children. It is also important that children appreciate the importance of industry to their town and the influence that it has had on the area.

To be inquisitive, independent and problem solvers

Design and technology is problem solving – meeting the challenge set by a design brief, overcoming obstacles, finding alternative solutions, designing, testing, refining and evaluating a product. These are the fundamentals of problem solving in any discipline. Pupils should explore the options available, new developments and alternative materials and processes not normally found in school. The success of a design and technology project is the accuracy of the evaluation, not always the success of a product.