

NC14 Design and Technology Coverage

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| Purpose of study | Design and technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. Pupils learn how to take risks, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world. High-quality design and technology education makes an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation. | |
| Aims | The national curriculum for design and technology aims to ensure that all pupils: <input type="checkbox"/> develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <input type="checkbox"/> critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products against the work of others <input type="checkbox"/> understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook. | |
| Subject Content | Key stage 1 Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils should be taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an iterative process of designing and making. They should work in a range of relevant contexts [for example, the home and school, gardens and playgrounds, the local community, industry and the wider environment]. | Key stage 2 Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils should be taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an iterative process of designing and making. They should work in a range of relevant contexts [for example, the home, school, leisure, culture, enterprise, industry and the wider environment]. |
| | KS1 | KS2 |
| | <i>When designing and making, pupils should be taught to:</i> | <i>When designing and making, pupils should be taught to:</i> |
| Design | <input type="checkbox"/> design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria <input type="checkbox"/> generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups and, where appropriate, information and communication technology | <input type="checkbox"/> use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative, functional appealing products that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups <input type="checkbox"/> generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design |
| Make | <input type="checkbox"/> select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing] <input type="checkbox"/> select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics | <input type="checkbox"/> select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing], accurately <input type="checkbox"/> select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities |
| Evaluate | <input type="checkbox"/> explore and evaluate a range of existing products <input type="checkbox"/> evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria | <input type="checkbox"/> investigate and analyse a range of existing products <input type="checkbox"/> evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work <input type="checkbox"/> understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world |
| Technical knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable <input type="checkbox"/> explore and use mechanisms [for example, levers, sliders, wheels and axles], in their products. | <input type="checkbox"/> apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures <input type="checkbox"/> understand and use mechanical systems in their products [for example, gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages] |

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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> understand and use electrical systems in their products [for example, series circuits incorporating switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors] <input type="checkbox"/> apply their understanding of computing to program, monitor and control their products. |
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