



Nurturing the Future, Inspiring Success

Design and Technology (DT)

Subject definition:

Design and technology is about designing and making products that solve problems and evaluating how successful they are.

Intent:

At North Farnborough Infant School, we nurture children's creativity through purposeful and engaging designing and making. Our curriculum sparks curiosity about how things work and encourages children to ask questions such as "Why?" and "How can this be achieved?" Children develop their ability to create products by combining design and making skills with growing knowledge and understanding. They learn to solve real and relevant problems across a range of contexts, using a variety of materials and tools safely to cut, shape, join and finish. Throughout their learning journey, children evaluate products against clear criteria and suggest improvements.

Implementation:

The EYFS and National Curriculum form the foundation of our D.T. curriculum, which is enhanced and tailored to our learners. Our core values—co-operation, confidence, independence, respect, happiness and responsibility—are embedded throughout, and through the CARE approach we prepare children for future challenges and wider life experiences.

In Early Years Foundation Stage, D.T. links mainly to Expressive Arts and Design, including the Early Learning Goals 'Creating with Materials' and 'Being Imaginative and Expressive'. In Year R, children explore a wide range of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Adult-led sessions introduce specific skills, which children then apply independently during Continuous Provision. They develop fine motor skills, learn to construct with purpose, and plan, review and adapt their ideas. D.T. opportunities extend outdoors, where children use large-scale resources such as crates, guttering and tyres to represent their ideas.

Across the school, teachers use varied approaches to build children's knowledge, skills and understanding. Lessons are practical and meaningful, encouraging discussion, problem-solving and constructive evaluation. Each project follows the research, design, make and evaluate cycle, with an emphasis on iterative design so children can refine their ideas. Resilience is strongly promoted as children learn to embrace challenges and persist.

Safe Respectful Ready