The Village Primary School

Design and Technology Policy

Date policy last reviewed: _____

Signed by:

_____	Headteacher	Date:	_____
_____	Chair of governors	Date:	_____

Last updated:

Contents:

Statement of intent

At The Village Primary School, we aim to deliver a high-quality Design and Technology education that fosters creativity, problem-solving, and independent thinking. We believe that Design and Technology is a vital part of the curriculum as it allows pupils to explore, innovate, and develop essential life skills. Our intent is to inspire pupils to design and make products that respond to real-world problems and to foster critical thinking through evaluation and experimentation.

The Village Primary School recognises the significance of Design and Technology as an academic discipline that encourages students to apply knowledge from across the curriculum, particularly science, art, and mathematics. This policy outlines our commitment to ensuring that pupils are equipped with the skills, knowledge, and understanding to succeed as confident creators and innovators.

Our Intent:

Equip pupils with the ability to use a range of materials, tools, and techniques.

Develop skills in evaluating and improving products.

Promote problem-solving and critical thinking through design challenges.

Encourage creativity and independent learning through hands-on experience.

Introduce pupils to a variety of career opportunities within Design and Technology.

Ensure that pupils can consider the impact of design on the environment and society.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2013) 'National curriculum in England: Design and Technology programmes of study'
- DfE (2023) 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Curriculum Policies
- Health and Safety Policy
- Educational Visits Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The **governing board** will be responsible for:

- Ensuring a broad and balanced Design and Technology curriculum is implemented.
- Ensuring the school's Design and Technology curriculum is accessible to all pupils.

The **headteacher** will be responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring the school's Design and Technology curriculum is consistently delivered.
- Allocating appropriate resources to the Design and Technology curriculum.
- Appointing a member of staff to lead on the school's approach to teaching Design and Technology.

The **Design and Technology lead** will be responsible for:

- Preparing policy documents, curriculum plans, and schemes of work for Design and Technology.
- Reviewing changes to the national curriculum and advising on their implementation.
- Monitoring the learning and teaching of Design and Technology, providing support for staff where necessary.
- Organising the deployment of resources and carrying out audits of Design and Technology materials.
- Leading staff meetings and providing professional development for staff.
- Advising on the contribution of Design and Technology to other curriculum areas.

Design and Technology **teachers** will be responsible for:

- Acting in accordance with this policy.
- Collaborating with the Design and Technology lead to plan and deliver the curriculum effectively.
- Monitoring the progress of pupils and providing feedback on their learning.
- Reporting any concerns regarding the teaching of the subject.

The **SENCO** will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the Design and Technology curriculum is inclusive and accessible for pupils with SEND.
- Providing support and strategies to help pupils with specific needs access the curriculum.
- Liaising with the Design and Technology lead to make any necessary adjustments.

3. The national curriculum

The national curriculum will be followed for all Design and Technology teaching.

During **Reception**, the focus will be on developing fine motor skills, experimenting with different materials, and using basic tools safely. Pupils will be encouraged to explore, design, and create using materials, with a focus on creativity and personal expression.

During **Years 1 and 2**, pupils will be taught to:

- Use a range of materials to design and make products.
- Explore the properties of materials and select appropriate tools for tasks.
- Design purposeful, functional, and appealing products.
- Use basic tools and equipment to perform practical tasks.
- Evaluate ideas and products against design criteria.
- Work safely with a variety of tools and materials.

During **Years 3-6**, pupils will be taught to:

- Apply a wider range of techniques and skills when making products.
- Use research and exploration to identify and understand design problems.
- Use computer-aided design (CAD) and other technologies to develop solutions.
- Evaluate products and consider their effectiveness, sustainability, and functionality.
- Understand the principles of healthy eating and nutrition.

4. Cross-curricular links

Design and Technology will incorporate learning from other subjects:

English:

- Pupils will develop communication skills by presenting their designs and explaining their decisions.
- Writing instructions and evaluations will enhance literacy skills.

Mathematics:

- Pupils will apply mathematical concepts in measuring, designing, and constructing products.
- Use of shape, space, and measurement will be integrated into projects.

Science:

- Pupils will investigate materials, forces, and structures as part of their projects.
- Principles of forces, mechanisms, and materials will be applied in the design process.

ICT:

- Pupils will use ICT to develop designs and create prototypes, including through computer aided design (CAD) .
- Pupils will learn about the role of technology in modern manufacturing.

5. Teaching and assessment

Lesson Planning:

All Design and Technology lessons will have clear learning objectives, linked to the national curriculum. Staff will plan lessons that cater to diverse learning needs, ensuring hands-on activities, demonstrations, and opportunities for creative exploration.

Assessment:

Pupils will be assessed through a combination of:

- Formative assessment during practical tasks.
- Peer and self-assessment of designs.
- Teacher feedback on design proposals and final products.
- A summative assessment at the end of each academic year.

Assessment will be recorded in line with the school's Primary Assessment Policy.

Resources

Pupils will have access to a selection of school-owned materials, tools and equipment. The school will ensure that all pupils are able to access these resources.

Health and safety

Appropriate risk assessments will be conducted for design and technology lessons – control measures will be implemented to ensure activities can be undertaken safely.

PPE, such as gloves and eye protection, will be made available to all pupils and teachers where required.

Pupils will be taught how to tools and equipment appropriately.

All tools and equipment will be locked in the resource cupboard at the end of each day.

Assessment

Pupils will be assessed through a combination of:

- Formative assessment during practical tasks.
- Peer and self-assessment of designs.
- Teacher feedback on design proposals and final products.
- A summative assessment at the end of each academic year.

Assessment will be recorded in line with the school's Primary Assessment Policy.

Parents will be provided with a written report about their child's progress during the Summer term every year. Verbal reports will be provided at parent-teacher meetings during the Autumn and Spring terms.

6. Equal opportunities

All pupils will have access to the Design and Technology curriculum, regardless of ability, gender, or background. Where necessary, adjustments will be made to ensure that pupils with SEND or other learning needs can fully participate.

7. Monitoring and review

The Design and Technology curriculum will be reviewed annually by the Design and Technology lead, in collaboration with the headteacher. Any amendments to the policy will be communicated to staff to ensure consistent implementation.