



Portland Spencer Academy Curriculum Intent

Design Technology



‘Design is a funny word. Some people think design means how it looks. But of course, if you dig deeper, it’s really how it works.’ - Steve Jobs

Design and Technology is an inspiring and practical subject. At Portland Spencer Academy, we strongly encourage children to use their creativity and imagination, to design and make products solving real life, contextual issues and problems across a variety of contexts. Children work both as individuals and as members of a team to complete a design process considering the needs of all.

Projects are developed using a structured design process; research, design, make and evaluate. This cycle aims to enable children to consider others’ needs, design and make products and evaluate the impact of their creations. Opportunities are provided to reflect upon and evaluate their own and past and present products along with designs from inspirational people who have impacted upon daily life and the wider world. By critiquing products, its function and effectiveness, our children are able to make adaptations to become resourceful, risk-takers able to innovate and design products in the future.

DT is woven through our ‘Connected Curriculum’ to enable children to draw upon and apply their knowledge and skills from other subjects, such as mathematics, science, computing and art. This combined with our iterative and progressive DT curriculum enables our children to build upon and apply a growing set of skills and knowledge to enable them to become resourceful and capable citizens prepared for later life.