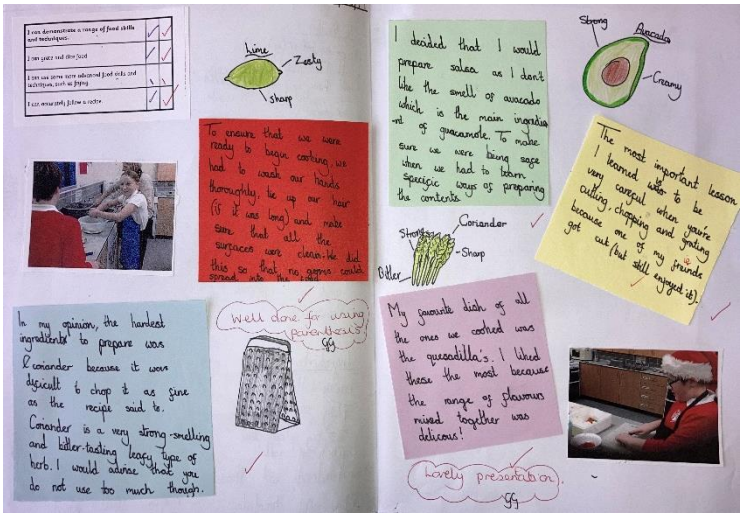
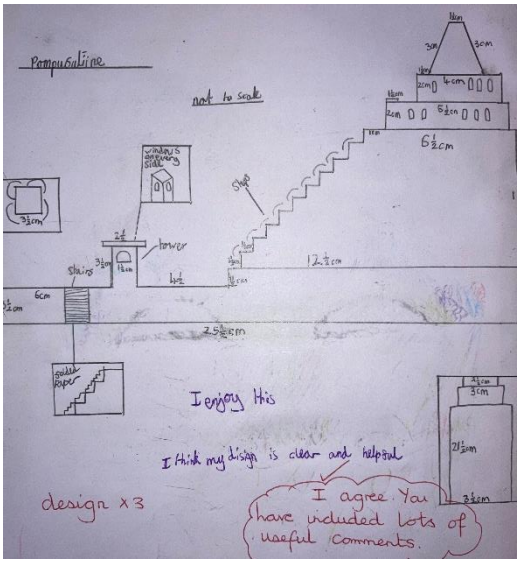
Thrapston Primary School
Intent, Implementation and Impact Design Technology

Intent:

At Thrapston Primary School, children receive a Design Technology curriculum which allows them to exercise their creativity and passion through exciting designing and making opportunities. The children are taught to combine their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding in order to design and make an end product. Skills are taught progressively to ensure that all children are able to learn and practise in order to develop as they move through the school. Evaluation is an integral part of the design process and allows children to adapt and improve their product, developing a key skill which they need throughout their life. Through engaging in a creative and challenging curriculum, the children will develop a lifelong love of learning. The Design Technology curriculum will provide all children with the opportunity to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills, equipping them with the values to live well in our society and prepare for the challenges of the modern world.

Design Technology at our school allows children to apply the knowledge and skills learned in other subjects, particularly Maths, Science and Art. All children will be given the opportunity to develop their understanding the importance of nutrition and safe food preparation. This will subsequently provide them with a lifelong skill, whilst also learning about ingredients and food traditions from different cultures around the world.





Implementation:

What do we teach? What does this look like?

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school values which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. Lessons are scaffolded to allow every child the opportunity to be successful. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. Knowledge organisers are used in each lesson by each year group to support a clear understanding of the knowledge and skills to be learned and practised for each unit. This also ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children. All teaching of DT follows the design, make and evaluate cycle. The design process is rooted in real life with relevant contexts that are pertinent to the children's everyday lives as young designers and inventors of the future. While making, children are given the opportunity to choose the tools and materials that best fit the task, whilst often working collaboratively, allowing them to further develop one of our core values as a school. Children evaluate their own products against a design criteria, which allows them to not only celebrate their successes but also consider how to improve the products that they have designed. Each of these steps is rooted in technical knowledge and vocabulary. DT is taught to a high standard, where each of the stages should be given equal weight. The key areas of learning for children are:

- **Structures**
- **Mechanisms**
- **Textiles**
- **Food and Nutrition**
- **Electrical Systems (KS2)**

We are fortunate to have access to two computer suites and a fully fitted kitchen, which can accommodate a whole class. These spaces, along with many other resources that the children have access to, provide an opportunity for the children to more freely explore their creativity and imagination as designers and inventors. DT is taught in weekly lessons that follow a clear progression. It is taught every other term in rotation with Art. Every year group have a unit that is taught in a 'Wow' day.

Impact:

By the time children leave Thrapston Primary School they will have:

- An excellent attitude to learning and independent working.
- The ability to use time efficiently and work constructively and in collaboration with others, supporting one another in a respectful and constructive way.
- The ability to carry out research, show initiative and ask questions to develop a knowledge of an end-users' needs.
- The ability to act as responsible designers and makers, working ethically, using finite materials carefully and working safely.
- A thorough knowledge of which tools, equipment and materials to use to make their products .
- The ability to apply mathematical knowledge and skills accurately.
- The ability to manage risks exceptionally well to manufacture products safely and hygienically.
- A passion for the subject, which they will hopefully carry throughout the rest of their education and beyond.

At Thrapston Primary School, we are able to measure the impact that DT has had for all children by:

- Determining the extent to which objectives are met within each lesson and overall, at the end of each unit through lesson assessments.
- Summative assessment of pupil discussions about their learning.
- Images of the children's practical learning.
- Interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice).
- Moderation staff meetings where pupil's books are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers to understand their class's work.
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum.