



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Everyday products	Everyday products are objects that are used routinely at home and school, such as a toothbrush, cup or pencil. All products are designed for a specific purpose.	Products can be improved in different ways, such as making them easier to use, more hardwearing or more attractive.	Particular products have been designed for specific tasks, such as nail clippers, the spinning top and the cool box.	Design features are the aspects of a product's design that the designer would like to emphasise, such as the use of a particular material or feature that makes the product easier to use or more durable.	Culture is the language, inventions, ideas, and art of a group of people. A society is all the people in a community or group. Culture affects the design of some products. For example, knives and forks are used in the western world, whereas chopsticks are used mainly in China and Japan. The design of products needs to consider the culture of the target audience. For example, colours might mean very different things in different cultures.	People's lives have been improved in countless ways due to new inventions and designs. For example, the Morrison shelter, designed by John Baker in 1941, was an indoor air-raid shelter used in over half a million homes during the Second World War. It saved the lives of many people caught in bombing raids.
Compare and contrast	Two products can be compared by looking at a set of criteria and scoring both products against each one.	Products can be compared by looking at particular characteristics of each and deciding which is better suited to the purpose.	Work from different designers can be compared by assessing specific criteria, such as their visual impact, fitness for purpose and target market.	A comparison table can be used to compare products by listing specific criteria on which each product can be judged or scored.	A focus group is a small group of people whose reactions and opinions about a product are taken and studied. Evaluations can be made by asking product users a selection of questions to obtain data on how the product has met its design criteria.	Products and inventions can be compared using a range of criteria, such as the impact on society, ease of use, appearance and value for money.



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

<p>Generation of ideas (design)</p>	<p>Design criteria are the explicit goals that a project must achieve.</p>	<p>Ideas can be communicated in a variety of ways, including written work, drawings and diagrams, modelling, speaking and using information and communication technology.</p>	<p>Design criteria are the exact goals a project must achieve to be successful. These criteria might include the product's use, appearance, cost and target user.</p>	<p>Annotated sketches and exploded diagrams show specific parts of a design, highlight sections or show functions. They communicate ideas in a visual, detailed way.</p>	<p>A pattern piece is a drawing or shape used to guide how to make something. There are many different computer aided design packages for designing products.</p>	<p>Design criteria should cover the intended use of the product, age range targeted and final appearance. Ideas can be communicated in a range of ways, including through discussion, annotated sketches, cross sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design.</p>
<p>Electricity</p>	<p>Electricity is a form of energy. Many household appliances use electricity, such as kettles, televisions and washing machines. They can be switched on by</p>	<p>A series circuit is made up of an energy source, such as a battery or cell, wires and a bulb. The circuit must be complete for the electricity to flow.</p>	<p>An electric circuit can be used in a model, such as a lighthouse. It can be controlled using a switch.</p>	<p>Components can be added to circuits to achieve a particular goal. These include bulbs for lighthouses and torches, buzzers for burglar alarms and electronic games,</p>	<p>Electrical circuits can be controlled by a simple on/off switch, or by a variable resistor that can adjust the size of the current in the circuit. Real life examples are a</p>	<p>Computer programs can control electrical circuits that include a variety of components, such as switches, lamps, buzzers and motors.</p>
	<p>completing the circuit to allow the flow of electricity or off by breaking the circuit to prevent electricity from flowing. This can be a switch on the appliance or a wall socket switch.</p>			<p>motors for fairground rides and motorised vehicles and switches for lights and televisions.</p>	<p>dimmer switch for lights or volume control on a stereo.</p>	



<p>Mechanisms and movement</p>	<p>An axle is a rod or spindle that passes through the centre of a wheel to connect two wheels.</p>	<p>A mechanism is a device that takes one type of motion or force and produces a different one. A mechanism makes a job easier to do. Mechanisms include sliders, levers, linkages, gears, pulleys and cams.</p>	<p>Lever consists of a rigid bar that rotates around a fixed point, called a fulcrum. They reduce the amount of work needed to lift a heavy object. Sliders move from side to side or up and down and are often used to make moving parts in books. Axles are shafts on which wheels can rotate to make a moving vehicle. Cams are devices that can convert circular motion into up-and-down motion.</p>	<p>Mechanisms can be used to add functionality to a model. For example, sliders or levers can be used in moving pictures, storybooks or simple puppets; linkages in moving vehicles or puppets; gears in motorised vehicles or spinning toys; pulleys in cable cars or transport systems and cams in 3-D moving toys or pictures.</p>	<p>Pneumatic systems use energy that is stored in compressed air to do work, such as inflating a balloon to open a model monster's mouth. These effects can be achieved using syringes and plastic tubing.</p>	<p>Mechanical systems can include sliders, levers, linkages, gears, pulleys and cams. Other mechanisms include pneumatics and hydraulics.</p>
<p>Structures</p>	<p>Different materials can be used for different purposes, depending on their properties. For example, cardboard is a stronger building material than paper. Plastic is light and can float. Clay is heavy and will sink.</p>	<p>Structures can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable by using cardboard rather than paper and triangular shapes rather than squares. A broader base will also make a structure more stable.</p>	<p>Shell structures are hollow, 3-D structures with a thin outer covering, such as a box. Frame structures are made from thin, rigid components, such as a tent frame. The rigid frame gives the structure shape and support. Diagonal struts can strengthen the structure.</p>	<p>A prototype is a mock-up of a design that will look like the finished product but may not be full size or made of the same materials. Shell and frame structures can be strengthened by gluing several layers of card together, using triangular shapes rather than squares, adding diagonal support struts and using 'Jinks' corners (small, thin pieces of card cut into a right-angled triangle and glued over each joint to straighten and strengthen them).</p>	<p>Various methods can be used to support a framework. These include cross braces, guy ropes and diagonal struts. Frameworks can be built using lolly sticks, skewers and bamboo canes.</p>	<p>Strength can be added to a framework by using multiple layers. For example, corrugated cardboard can be placed with corrugations running alternately vertically and horizontally. Triangular shapes can be used instead of square shapes because they are more rigid. Frameworks can be further strengthened by adding an outer cover.</p>
<p>Cutting and joining textiles</p>	<p>Scissors are used to cut fabrics. Glue and simple stitches, such as running stitch, can be used to join fabrics. Running stitch is made by passing a needle in and out of</p>	<p>A running stitch is a basic stitch that is used to join fabric. It is made by passing a needle in and out of fabric at an even distance.</p>	<p>A loom is a piece of equipment that is used for making fabric by weaving wool or thread. Weaving involves interlacing pieces of thread or yarn.</p>	<p>A hem runs along the edge of a piece of cloth or clothing. It is made by turning under a raw edge and sewing to give a neat and quality finish.</p>	<p>A collage is artwork made by sticking materials, such as scraps of paper or fabric, onto a background. A mixed media collage is made using various materials</p>	<p>Pinning with dressmaker pins and tacking with quick, temporary stitches holds fabric together in preparation for and during sewing.</p>



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

	fabric at an even distance.				and media, such as ink and paint.	
Decorating and embellishing textiles	Fabric can be decorated using materials and small objects, such as buttons and sequins. Decorations can be attached to the fabric by gluing, stapling or tying.	Embellishment is a decorative detail or feature added to something to make it more attractive.	A loom weaving is a piece of fabric that has been woven on a loom by interlacing threads. An embellishment is a decorative detail or feature, such as a silk flower, tassel or bow, added to something to make it more attractive.	Block printing techniques and fabric paint are used to create decorative, repeated patterns on fabrics.	Applique is a technique where pieces of material are attached to another material by stitching or gluing.	Fastenings hold a piece of clothing together. Types of fastenings include zips, press studs, Velcro and buttons.
Food preparation and cooking	Using non-standard measures is a way of measuring that does not involve reading scales. For example, weight may be measured using a balance scale and lumps of plasticine. Length may be measured in the number of handspans or pencils laid end to end.	Some ingredients need to be prepared before they can be cooked or eaten. There are many ways to prepare ingredients: peeling skins using a vegetable peeler, such as potato skins; grating hard ingredients, such as cheese or chocolate; chopping vegetables, such as onions and peppers and slicing foods, such as bread and apples.	Preparation techniques for savoury dishes include peeling, chopping, deseeding, slicing, dicing, grating, mixing and skinning.	Cooking techniques include baking, boiling, frying, grilling and roasting.	Sweet dishes are usually desserts, such as cakes, fruit pies and trifles. Savoury dishes usually have a salty or spicy flavour rather than a sweet one.	Ingredients can usually be bought at supermarkets, but specialist shops may stock different items. Greengrocers sell fruit and vegetables, butchers sell meat, fishmongers sell fresh fish and delicatessens usually sell some unusual, prepared foods, as well as cold meats and cheeses.
Evaluation	A strength is a good quality of a piece of work. A weakness is an area that could be improved.	Finished products can be compared with design criteria to see how closely they match. Improvements can then be planned.	Asking questions can help others to evaluate their products, such as asking them whether the selected materials achieved the purpose of the model.	Evaluation can be done by considering whether the product does what it was designed to do, whether it has an attractive appearance, what changes were made during the making process and why the changes were made. Evaluation also includes suggesting improvements and explaining why they should be made.	Testing a product against the design criteria will highlight anything that needs improvement or redesign. Changes are often made to a design during manufacture.	Design is an iterative process, meaning alterations and improvements are made continually throughout the manufacturing process. Evaluating a product while it's being manufactured, and explaining these evaluations to others, can help to refine it.



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

Staying safe	Rules are made to keep people safe from danger. Safety rules include always listening carefully and following instructions, using equipment only as and when directed, wearing protective clothing if appropriate and	Hygiene rules include washing hands before handling food, cleaning surfaces, tying long hair back, storing food appropriately and wiping up spills.	Electrical appliances must only be used under the supervision of an adult. Safety rules must also be followed when using electricity: fingers and other objects must not be put into electrical outlets, anything with a cord or plug should never be used	Chemicals are used in the home every day. They include cleaning products, such as bleach and disinfectant, but also paints, glues, oils, pesticides and medicines. Most chemical products carry a hazard symbol showing in what way the	Safety features are often incorporated into products that might cause harm. Some examples include the child-safety caps on medicine bottles, seatbelts in cars, covers for electrical sockets and finger guards on doors.	The safety of the user must be considered when designing a new product. Methods to help keep users safe include providing clear instructions for use; clear indication of the age range for which it is designed; safety features (such as child-
	washing hands before touching food.		around water and a plug should never be pulled out by its cord.	chemical could be harmful. Chemicals should only be used under adult supervision. Appropriate safety precautions, such as wearing goggles and gloves, working in a well-ventilated room, wiping up spills and tying back long hair, should be taken.		resistant packaging); warning symbols and electrical safety checks.
Investigation/use of tools and equipment	Specific tools are used for particular purposes. For example, scissors are used for cutting and glue is used for sticking.	Different tools have characteristics that make them suitable for specific purposes. For example, scissors are used for cutting paper because they have sharp, metal blades that can cut through thin materials.	Specific tools can be used for cutting, such as saws. Wood can be joined using glue, nails, staples, or a combination of these. Safety rules must be followed to prevent injury from sharp blades. These rules include using a bench hook to keep the wood still, using a junior hacksaw with a pistol grip and working under adult supervision.	Useful tools for cutting include scissors, craft knives, junior hacksaws with pistol grip and bench hooks. Useful tools for joining include glue guns. Tools should only be used with adult supervision and safety rules must be followed.	There are many rules for using tools safely and these may vary depending on the tools being used. For example, someone using a chisel should chip or cut with the cutting edge pointing away from their body. All tools should be cleaned and put away after use and should not be used if they are loose or cracked.	Precision is important in producing a polished, finished product. Correct selection of tools and careful measurement can ensure the parts fit together correctly.



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

Materials for purpose	Different materials are suitable for different purposes, depending on their specific properties. For example, glass is transparent, so it is suitable to be used for windows.	Properties of components and materials determine how they can and cannot be used. For example, plastic is shiny and strong but it can be difficult to paint.	Materials for a specific task must be selected on the basis of their properties. These include physical properties as well as availability and cost.	Different materials and components have a range of properties, making them suitable for different tasks. It is important to select the correct material or component for the specific purpose, depending on the design criteria. Recipe ingredients have different tastes and appearances. They look and taste better and are cheaper when in season.	Materials should be cut and combined with precision. For example, pieces of fabric could be cut with sharp scissors and sewn together using a variety of stitching techniques.	It is important to understand the characteristics of different materials to select the most appropriate material for a purpose. This might include flexibility, waterproofing, texture, colour, cost and availability.
Nutrition	Fruit and vegetables are an important part of a healthy diet. It is recommended that people eat at least five portions of fruit and vegetables every day.	A healthy diet should include meat or fish, starchy foods (such as potatoes or rice), some dairy foods, a small amount of fat and plenty of fruit and vegetables.	There are five main food groups that should be eaten regularly as part of a balanced diet: fruit and vegetables; carbohydrates (potatoes, bread, rice and pasta); proteins (beans, pulses, fish, eggs and meat); dairy and alternatives (milk, cheese and yoghurt) and	Healthy snacks include fresh or dried fruit and vegetables, nuts and seeds, rice cakes with lowfat cream cheese, homemade popcorn or chopped vegetables with hummus. A healthy packed lunch might include a brown or wholemeal bread	A balanced diet gives your body all the nutrients it needs to function correctly. This means eating a wide variety of foods in the correct proportions.	Eating a balanced diet is a positive lifestyle choice that should be sustained over time. Food that is high in fat, salt or sugar can still be eaten occasionally as part of a balanced diet.
			fats (oils and spreads). Foods high in fat, salt and sugar should only be eaten occasionally as part of a healthy, balanced diet.	sandwich containing eggs, meat, fish or cheese, a piece of fresh fruit, a low-sugar yoghurt, rice cake or popcorn and a drink, such as water or semi - skimmed milk.		



<p>Origins of food</p>	<p>Some foods come from animals, such as meat, fish and dairy products. Other foods come from plants, such as fruit, vegetables, grains, beans and nuts.</p>	<p>Food comes from two main sources: animals and plants. Cows provide beef, sheep provide lamb and mutton and pigs provide pork, ham and bacon. Examples of poultry include chickens, geese and turkeys. Examples of fish include cod, salmon and shellfish. Milk comes mainly from cows but also from goats and sheep. Most eggs come from chickens. Honey is made by bees. Fruit and vegetables come from plants. Oils are made from parts of plants. Sugar is made from plants called sugar cane and sugar beet. Plants also give us nuts, such as almonds, walnuts and hazelnuts.</p>	<p>The types of food that will grow in a particular area depend on a range of factors, such as the rainfall, climate and soil type. For example, many crops, such as potatoes and sugar beet, are grown in the south-east of England. Wheat, barley and vegetables grow well in the east of England.</p>	<p>Particular areas of the world have conditions suited to growing certain crops, such as coffee in Peru and citrus fruits in California in the United States of America.</p>	<p>Seasonality is the time of year when the harvest or flavour of a type of food is at its best. Buying seasonal food is beneficial for many reasons: the food tastes better; it is fresher because it hasn't been transported thousands of miles; the nutritional value is higher; the carbon footprint is lower, due to reduced transport; it supports local growers and is usually cheaper.</p>	<p>Organic produce is food that has been grown without the use of manmade fertilisers, pesticides, growth regulators or animal feed additives. Organic farmers use crop rotation, animal and plant manures, hand-weeding and biological pest control.</p>
<p>Use of ICT</p>	<p>Computer-aided design is when computers are used to help design products. It has advantages over paper design in that it will show how finished products will look. Different colours and textures can also be trialled.</p>	<p>Computer software can be used to help design or plan a product. Advantages include identifying and solving problems before the product is made and experimenting with different materials and colours. Labels can be added to designs for clarity.</p>	<p>A program is a set of instructions written to perform a specified task on a computer.</p>	<p>Remote control is controlling a machine or activity from a distance. Computers can be used to remotely control a device, such as a light, speaker or buzzer.</p>	<p>Equipment and devices can be controlled by pressing buttons on a control panel, such as on a washing machine or microwave.</p>	<p>Computer monitoring uses sensors as a scientific tool to record information about environmental changes over time. Computer monitoring can also log data from sensors and record the resulting information in a table or graph.</p>



All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression 2025-26

Significant people	The importance of a product may be that it fulfils its goals and performs a useful purpose.	Many key individuals have helped to shape the world. These include engineers, scientists, designers, inventors and many other people in important roles.	Key inventions in design and technology have changed the way people live.	Significant designers and inventors can shape the world.	Many new designs and inventions influenced society. For example, labour-saving devices in the home reduced the amount of housework, which was traditionally done by women. This enabled them to have jobs.	The significance of a designer or inventor can be measured in various ways. Their work may benefit society in health, transport, communication, education, the built environment or technology. It may enhance culture in
--------------------	---	--	---	--	--	---

All Saints Church of England Primary School ~ Design and Technology ~ Knowledge Progression

						different areas, such as fashion, ceramics or computer games.
--	--	--	--	--	--	---