



Design and Technology – Meet the subject leader

Since joining West Rainton Primary School in September 2021, I have had the pleasure of leading design and technology. As a teacher in the Early years, I strive to provide children with the opportunities to gain their initial 'hands-on' experience of design and technology, through building a variety of structures in the construction area with a range of different materials. It is here where they should be able to develop a resilience to take risks and problem solve in order to create a product and prepare them for their future learning in the subject.



As the leader of Design and Technology I have implemented changes for the Food and Nutrition strand of the subject, including a dedicated resource area for new cookery equipment as well as gaining my Level 1 and Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificates. New personalised school aprons both for EYFS/KS1 and KS2 are now available for each pupil to use when carrying out cooking activities demonstrating the importance of sustainability and eco-friendly considerations when cooking.

The introduction of a pupil journal, displaying their design and technology journey throughout their primary years from one to six is proving to be an excellent resource. It shows a clear journey of progress in research, design, technical and evaluative skills. It is also a helpful resource for them when they leave year six to take on their journey into secondary school and beyond.

In line with the school's overarching curriculum key drivers, design and technology throughout the school has been planned to allow the children the opportunity to experience a rich and varied range of topics that will inspire them to become creative, inquisitive and resilient learners. It will also encourage the children to use research methods to enable them to develop innovative, functional products that will be 'fit for the purpose' and allow them to evaluate their product or the products of others.

I am excited to continue my journey within the subject and to keep moving forward in order to provide the children with as many exciting opportunities to equip them in becoming the next generation of innovative designers in the forever growing technical world we live in.

Mrs Gill Pickford