

KS2 LOWER DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (D&T) CURRICULUM OVERVIEW FOR PARENTS

Design and Technology in Lower Key Stage 2 encourages children to design, make and evaluate purposeful products with greater independence. They learn to plan carefully, select tools and materials thoughtfully, and understand how design meets real-world needs.

Children should:

- Research and develop design criteria for purposeful, functional products.
- Generate and communicate ideas through annotated sketches and diagrams.
- Use a wider range of tools, materials and components safely and effectively.
- Evaluate and improve their designs against specific criteria.
- Apply technical knowledge to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce structures.
- Learn about food, cooking and nutrition.



Children will learn to:

- Plan and make structures and mechanisms, such as bridges and boats.
- Work with materials including wood, card, fabric, and electrical components.
- Measure, cut, shape and join materials accurately.
- Use simple electrical circuits to create working products (e.g. light-up Christmas cards).
- Prepare and make simple food items like dips, learning about nutrition and hygiene.

This helps children understand how to design for purpose and how practical problems can be solved creatively.



Children will explore:

- How to make stable structures that can hold weight or move.
- How to use electrical systems safely in products.
- How food is produced, and the importance of balanced nutrition.

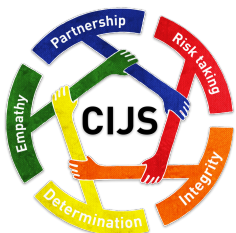
They begin to combine creativity with problem-solving – designing for real users and evaluating how well their products work.



Children will:

- Investigate existing products and suggest improvements.
- Learn about designers and inventors who have influenced the world of engineering and design.

Reflect on their work and think about how to make it better next time.



Design & Technology helps children:

- Think creatively and critically
- Solve problems through trial and error
- Gain confidence working with their hands
- Understand the world of design, food and engineering

Design & Technology **KS2L**

How can I help my child at home?

Your encouragement helps children see design as a creative process that involves imagination, experimentation and persistence.

Encourage your child to plan and build things using recycling materials, LEGO, or construction kits.



Talk about how everyday products are designed and what makes them work well.

Cook or bake simple recipes together, focusing on measuring and food preparation skills.



Visit museums or online exhibits about inventions, engineering or architecture.

Celebrate when something doesn't work the first time – it's all part of learning to problem-solve

