



D.T. pupil voice

Summer 2024



Do you have DT lessons? How do you know they are DT lessons?

We see on the board / timetable that it's DT.

Our teacher tells us it's DT.

We know it's DT instead of Art because you are designing technology instead of making something beautiful.

The success criteria has the DT symbol.

It's in the mornings or the afternoons.

In DT it's design and technology and you make useful things.

Can you tell / show me something you have learnt in DT this year?

Rainbow

"I like building with the blocks but when it's tall it might fall over."

"I'm making a boat! I need a box and glue."

Year 1

"I learnt about food from plants and food from animals."

"We were grating, peeling, chopping."

Year 2

"I made a vehicle for Claude. I planned what it was going to look like and what I would need. I needed an axle."

"We put sugar cubes in running bonds and stacked bonds. Running bonds are stronger. My wall was really stable because I gave it a wide base and used a running bond."

Year 3

"We were making a frame and finding a shape that is strong. The strongest shape was a triangle."

Year 4

"We were sewing with running stitch and back stitch."

"We made paper circuits by putting copper tape onto paper – that's the only good thing to conduct electricity. You could hook a wire up but then it wouldn't be flat."

Year 5

"We're going to make bread."

"I made a menu of summer food...ingredients you can find in the summer."

"I made a moving toy, an automaton. I used a cam. That turns a spinning motion into a linear path."

Year 6

"We cooked Bolognese. We had to think about what the family wanted and make the meal right for them all."

Can you tell me about some of the skills you used?

What skills does a design technologist need?

"You can always go back and make it better. Make it and break it and do it again." (Y1)

A deep understanding of the design process and the value and importance of design as an iterative process.

"Plan first, try to find the materials you need, make. Evaluate it after. Sometimes we go back and try again or fix it." (Y5)

"Make a plan, get all the things we need, draw the plan. Then you make it. Test it. Then make it again if there's a problem." (Y3)

"You have to find things out first and do research to get ideas." (Y4)

The ability to carry out thorough research, show initiative and ask questions to develop an exceptionally detailed knowledge of users' needs.

Discovering is an important skill. We had a workshop with an expert to learn things about bridges first and that helped us." (Y3)

"You can ask a designer for ideas or look at what they've done. You need to research." (Y2)

Teamwork! (Y2)

The ability to use time efficiently and work constructively and productively with others.

My group had quite a hard time making it (our bridge) but we worked together and just kept trying! (Y3)

Can you tell me about some of the skills you used?

What skills does a design technologist need?

"You have to know how to be careful and stay safe." (Y4)

The ability to manage risks exceptionally well to manufacture products safely and hygienically.

"Making things could hurt you. We had to make sure we didn't put our hands next to the graters or knives." (Y1)

"This is how you can use a saw safely." (Child modelled) (Y5)

"You've got to be patient. Keep trying until you get the result you want." (Y5)

The ability to think independently and to persevere when faced with challenges, showing a confidence of success

"Always have a try first." (Y1)

"I've cut with scissors and a saw before." (Y2)

"You can use sandpaper to make the wood smooth so it doesn't hurt anyone." (Y2)

"You need to learn the practical skills you will need." (Y5)

A thorough knowledge of which tools, equipment and materials to use to make their products.

You've got to practice before you do it. Learn how to make it and then you can make it (Y2)

"Measure carefully and choose the right materials" (Y3)

Is DT dangerous? What do you do to keep yourself safe in DT?

We might get gloves and goggles.
Y2

It could be dangerous, for example
with electricity. We have to be safe
and sensible. Y4

Tie your hair up. Only
use 1 tool at a time
and stay tidy. Follow
the instructions. Y3

Don't put your hands next to the
graters or knives. Y1

We can wear protective clothes.
Adults supervise us. We follow the
rules we are taught. Y5

Retrieval questions

KS1 – can you tell me about the parts of a slider?

- If we want to move the rod we can't use glue or it will get stuck so we used tape for the guide bridge so the rod could still move. (Y2)
- We made a hole for the rod to go through. It's called a slot. (Y1)
- We could change the slot to make the slider move in different ways. (Y1)



Retrieval questions

KS2 – how do you make strong structures?

- You need strong shapes like triangles. (Y4)
- The materials you use are important. Some are stronger than others like card instead of paper. (Y5)
- You need to make it stable. (Y4)
- Measure it carefully and choose the right materials. (Y3)
- A running bond is stronger than a stacked bond when you build a wall. (Y3)
- A wide base will be more stable.(Y5)

How could DT be made even better at St Denys?

It would be nice to work with someone else in the school like your sister (Y2)

If we did even more of it! Normally you have DT every week for a short time then stop but it would be good to have more time to practice our skills. (Y5)

We could have competitions to make the best something like in each class. (Y3)

Working in groups more. (Y4)

If everybody in the school worked together on projects. (Y3)