

Catch Up Statement for Design and Technology

5th January 2022

Within The Mead Academy Trust, we recognise the importance of the quality first teaching of design and technology to enhance children's skills and technical knowledge. During COVID-19 it was clear that the availability of resources, good subject knowledge and structured teaching wasn't available to the children which led to gaps in the children's learning and knowledge. In response to this, we have implemented a new curriculum from the DT association called Projects on a Page. Projects on a Page has a clear and structured step by step delivery which follows the four key components of DT; design, make, evaluate, technical knowledge and understanding whilst focusing on the iterative process throughout.

We have identified two main areas to focus on as a Trust, these are the investigative and evaluative processes. Designing and Evaluating are also identified gaps from the children's learning from the lockdown and are now focus areas for every project in every year group. In response to an identified gap in Year 3, electrical circuits were pre-taught before the DT project to enable the children to understand the technical knowledge and skills needed to be able to complete their product.

In the transition to a new DT curriculum, we have prioritised children having access to a wide range of resources that are readily available for them to explore, manipulate and enhance their products both practically and aesthetically. Additional to this, children now have access to a range of tools to improve their technical knowledge and motor skills. Through CPD and subject leader mentoring, teachers are now more confident in their delivery of the DT curriculum. Consequently, children are having more opportunities to experience wider aspects of DT such as; mechanisms, circuits, pneumatics, food preparation and textiles, which they will not have been able to access during the COVID lockdown.