

At Capel St Mary, Design Technology gives children the opportunity to become ambitious and creative inventors who are resilient and resourceful when faced with a challenge. We cover all key areas in our DT curriculum, ranging from food and nutrition, mechanisms, structures to electrical systems. When children come into EYFS, their wonderful imaginations already make them expert inventors. That is why we ensure that within our curriculum and continuous provision, there are copious opportunities for them to explore the design process through creative model design and engaging food preparation. We also value the importance of EYFS being a key time where children master the basic skills needed for the rest of their education. This is explored through their weekly forest school sessions where they are given the chance to learn how to safely handle equipment such as hammers, nails and wood.

Starting in Year 1, children have explicit lessons in DT where they begin to secure and apply a variety of challenging skills, such as using a needle and thread and using more advanced technical equipment. Each of the DT lessons across the year groups are designed to give pupils the opportunity to problem solve, collaborate, design, apply, evaluate and modify their ideas. These are linked to real life problems and contexts, with a key question at the centre of each unit, for example 'Can street food save us?' Teachers encourage children to take risks in their design process as it allows them to be innovative and feel confident to adapt their ideas, learning through their mistakes and successes.

Developing children's oracy and vocabulary skills are embedded into each of our DT units to ensure the children are able to confidently discuss their design ideas and evaluations. We strive for all children at Capel St Mary to gain life skills that support their success in the outside world and feel confident to face any challenges.