OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, we strive to thrive by being ready, respectful and kind every day. We do our very best in all that we do, for the glory of Christ, knowing that:

"With God all things are possible"

OLI Design and Technology Policy

Date	Review Date	Coordinator
Autumn 2026	**Autumn 2029**	**Kirsty Southwell**

Headteacher:	Sophie Gibbs
Chair of Governing Body:	Catherine Squires

Vision

At Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, we strive to thrive in DT by being ready to learn, respectful of God's creation, and kind in the way we work with others. Design and Technology provides pupils with opportunities to design, make and evaluate purposeful products for real-life contexts. Through a progressive and practical curriculum, pupils develop creativity, problem-solving skills and technical knowledge.

"With God, all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26)

Teaching aims:

Our curriculum is designed to:

- Build knowledge and skills progressively from EYFS to Year 6.
- Develop independence, resilience and confidence through practical tasks.
- Encourage creativity, innovation and problem-solving.
- Ensure pupils understand how design and technology impact everyday life.
- Provide meaningful real-life contexts for learning.
- Develop technical knowledge and practical skills through designing and making.
- Enable pupils to evaluate products and improve their own designs.
- Promote safe and responsible use of tools, equipment and materials.
- Support pupils in making links across the curriculum, particularly with Mathematics, Science, Computing and Art.

What we teach:

The curriculum is organised into five strands:

- Design
- Make
- Evaluate
- Technical Knowledge
- Cooking and Nutrition

Through the Twinkl Design and Technology scheme, pupils develop their understanding of the design process whilst creating products that solve problems and meet specific design criteria. Skills and knowledge are taught progressively to ensure that children build on prior learning and are well prepared for the next stage of their education.

Impact:

At Our Lady Immaculate, DT lessons are practical, engaging and hands-on. Pupils are encouraged to think creatively, take risks and learn from their experiences. Skills are explicitly taught and revisited throughout the curriculum, with key vocabulary embedded and reinforced.

Across each key stage, pupils are given opportunities to:

- Design purposeful products to meet a specific brief.
- Generate, develop and communicate their ideas through discussion, drawings and models.
- Select and use a range of tools, equipment and materials safely and effectively.
- Apply technical knowledge when making products.
- Evaluate existing products and their own work against design criteria.
- Reflect on their learning and identify ways to improve their designs.
- Develop an understanding of how technology, engineering, food and design shape the world around them.

As a result, pupils leave Our Lady Immaculate as confident, creative and reflective learners who can apply their design and technology skills to real-life situations and understand the importance of innovation in the wider world.

Health and Safety:

Health and safety is an important aspect of Design and Technology and is embedded within all teaching and learning. Pupils are taught how to use tools, equipment and materials safely and responsibly, enabling them to work confidently and independently whilst minimising risk.

There are some hazards associated with:

- Sharp tools and equipment (e.g. scissors, cutting tools, needles)
- Hot materials and equipment (e.g. glue guns, ovens, hobs)
- Food preparation and cooking activities
- Electrical components used in projects

- Construction materials and adhesives

Sharp tools are used under close adult supervision, with pupils receiving clear instruction on their safe use. Teachers/ staff carefully assess which tools are appropriate based on the age and stage of the children.

During cooking and nutrition activities, children are taught the importance of good hygiene practices, including handwashing, safe food handling and the correct use of kitchen equipment. Any allergies or dietary requirements are identified and considered before activities take place.

Where electrical components or hot equipment are used, these activities are closely supervised by an adult and appropriate safety measures are followed at all times.

Teachers carry out risk assessments where necessary and ensure that all resources and equipment are safe, well maintained and suitable for the children using them. Through Design and Technology, pupils develop an understanding of how to assess risks and work safely when designing and making products.