Curriculum Statement for DT

Intent – What we want to achieve

At William Austin Infant School, our mission is to create a learning environment 'Where All Individuals Shine'. We **intend** to provide a DT curriculum which engages children to be inspired by engineers, designers and chefs. We **intend** to provide a wide range of learning experiences, which enable our pupils to create a range of structures, mechanisms, textile products and food products with an emphasis on a real-life purpose.

Learners are provided with opportunities to secure their own knowledge and understanding and to develop their creative skills further. Our pupils are given the opportunity to plan, create and evaluate designs and mechanisms. In doing so, we **intend** to develop the children's skills in making products that are purposeful and useful, exploring ways to overcome difficulties and solve problems that they may encounter in the process. We **intend** to provide learning opportunities for the children which enable them to think critically about designs they have created and evaluate any improvements that could be made.

Implementation – How we will achieve this

At William Austin Infant School, we provide children with high-quality DT lessons that are creative, engaging and inclusive. Key skills are taught and developed in carefully planned lessons. Each year group follow their own DT progression which supports children in developing key skills linked to the National Curriculum:

- **Design:** Pupils will be given opportunities to design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria. They will generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups and, where appropriate, information and communication technology
- **Make**: Pupils will be given opportunities to select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing). They will select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics.
- **Evaluate:** Pupils will explore and evaluate a range of existing products. They will be given opportunities to evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria.
- **Technical knowledge:** Pupils will build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable products. They will explore and use mechanisms (for example, levers, sliders, wheels and axles) in their products.
- **Cooking and nutrition:** Pupils will use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes. They will be given opportunities to understand where food comes from.

Our DT curriculum is **implemented** through lessons which include creative and practical activities in which the skills of design, making and evaluation are taught. Each lesson has a clear structure with a focus on the end product to be made, whether that is a construction, textile or food product. Our DT curriculum involves a research phase, in which materials and ideas are explored. Children are taught to think about the suitability of materials they select for their final design during this phase of the project. Children then design, make and evaluate their product, thinking about the processes involved and how their product could be improved.

Impact – The Outcomes

The **impact** of our DT curriculum can be seen through the enjoyment and confidence children have in planning, designing, making and evaluating their products. Through the DT curriculum, our pupils develop their creative, technical and practical abilities to create products and are able to transfer these skills to perform everyday tasks confidently. The **impact** of the DT curriculum can further be seen in our pupils by the way in which they make links in their learning in DT lessons when using and exploring everyday resources in the classroom. The children develop their problem solving skills and are able to think of alternatives if a resource they would like to use is unavailable.