Design & Technology Rationale

Vision
At Leopold, we aim to nurture an appreciation and enjoyment of Design & Technology. The subject develops children's skills and knowledge in design, structures, mechanisms, electrical control and a range of materials, including food. It encourages children's creativity and encourages them to think about important issues. We aim to enable children to develop their creativity, practical and problem solving skills in a real world context whilst gaining vital knowledge.

Intent
We strive for ambitious, literate pupils who can problem solve; articulate themselves confidently and show resilience.

Implementation
We follow the National Curriculum and, with the help of carefully constructed medium term plans and progression maps throughout each key stage, teachers plan lessons and projects that enhance and build on previously learned skills, such as building structures and designing healthy meals. Therefore, children are encouraged to use their sketchbooks to plan ideas, practice new techniques, and evaluate their work.

With this in mind, staff INSET training includes guidance on the teaching of designing and use of sketchbooks, and practicing key skills that are outlined in the progression maps. Children are given time to create work over a series of lessons, using whichever materials they will need and thinking about how they can improve their designs to make them suitable for real world purposes. The most important aspect considered throughout are the skills that need to be covered.