DT Skills Progression Grid

DT The areas of EYFS that prepare children for the National Curriculum programmes of study.		
Reception	Physical Development	• Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace. • Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. • Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
	Expressive Arts and Design	• Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. • Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. • Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.

ELG	Physical Development	Fine Motor Skills	• Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery.
	Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with Materials	• Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. • Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.

KEY SKILLS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Design	Begin to design purposeful, functional and appealing products based on a design criteria. Begin to develop and communicate their ideas through talking and drawing.	Design purposeful, functional and appealing products based on a design criteria. Develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups and, where appropriate, ICT.	Begin to generate idea and develop design criteria to inform the design of functional and appealing products. Begin to generate, model and communicate their ideas through discussion and annotated sketches.	With increasing confidence, generate ideas and develop design criteria to inform the design of functional and appealing products that are fit for purpose and aimed at particular individuals or groups. With increasing confidence, generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion and annotated sketches, cross sectional and exploded diagrams.	Begin to use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of functional and appealing products that are fit for purpose and aimed at particular individuals or groups. Independently generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion and annotated sketches, making prototypes where applicable.	Confidently use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of functional and appealing products that are fit for purpose and aimed at particular individuals or groups. Confidently generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion and annotated sketches, making prototypes, pattern pieces and computer aided-design.
Make	Uses a range of selected tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting and joining) Uses a wide range of materials, components, including	Selects from a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing) Starts to choose from a wide range of materials, components,	Begins to explain their choice of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks accurately. Selects from a wide range of materials, components,	Explains use of a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing), accurately. Selects from a wide range of materials, components,	Explains and chooses a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing), accurately.	Confidently explains and chooses a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing), accurately. Confidently explains and chooses from a wide range of materials, components, including construction materials and textiles, according to their characteristics.

	construction materials and textiles.	including construction materials and textiles, according to their characteristics.	including construction materials and textiles, according to their characteristics.	including construction materials and textiles, according to their characteristics.	Explains choice when using a wide range of materials, components, including construction materials and textiles, according to their characteristics.	
Evaluate	To explore a range of existing products and talk about what is good and bad about them. Say whether the product does what it is meant to (does it fit the design criteria) and how it could be improved.	Describe how their own and pre-existing products work, evaluating what went well and what could be done differently. Say whether their own product does what it is meant to (does it fit the design criteria) and suggest ways to improve or do things differently.	Evaluate own and existing products. Suggest what could be changed to improve a design, beginning to link this to the design brief.	Evaluate the appearance and usability of own and pre-existing products. Explain how the original design could be improved, considering the appearance and usability and linking this to the design brief.	Evaluate the appearance and function of a product (own and pre-existing) against the design criteria, saying whether it is fit for purpose. Suggest improvements that could be made.	Evaluate the appearance and test the function of a product (own and existing) against the original criteria, saying whether it is fit for purpose. Suggest improvements that could be made, considering materials, methods, sustainability of the product and how much a product costs to make.
Technical knowledge	Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable. Explore and use mechanisms [for example, levers, sliders, wheels and	Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable. Explore and use mechanisms [for example, levers, sliders, wheels and	Apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures. Understand and use	Apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures. Understand and use mechanical systems	Apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures.	Apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures. Understand and use mechanical systems in their products [for example, gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages] understand and use electrical systems in their products [for example, series

	axles] in their products.	axles] in their products.	mechanical systems in their products (for example, gears, levers and pulleys).	in their products (for example, gears, levers and pulleys). Understand and use electrical systems in their products (for example, series circuits incorporating switches, bulbs and buzzers.	Understand and use mechanical systems in their products [for example, gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages] understand and use electrical systems in their products [for example, series circuits incorporating switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors] Apply their understanding of computing to program, monitor and control their products.	circuits incorporating switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors] Apply their understanding of computing to program, monitor and control their products.

Cooking and Nutrition	Know the importance for good health of physical exercise and a healthy diet and talk about ways to be healthy. Understand where food comes from.	Know the importance for good health of physical exercise and a healthy diet and talk about ways to be healthy. Understand where food comes from.	Understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet. Prepare and cook a variety of dishes using a range of cooking techniques.	Understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet. Prepare and cook a variety of dishes using a range of cooking techniques.	Understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet. Prepare and cook a variety of dishes using a range of cooking Techniques. Understand seasonality, and know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed.	Understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet. Prepare and cook a variety of dishes using a range of cooking Techniques. Understand seasonality, and know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed.