



## ***Inspiring All To Soar To New Heights***

*“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.”* Isaiah 40:31

### **Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Requirements**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage at Downham C of E Primary School, children explore and use a wide variety of media and materials through a balance of child-initiated and adult-led activities.

Design and Technology in EYFS enables children to develop knowledge and understanding of the world around them. We recognise that design is not simply about drawing — it is about thinking, exploring ideas and solving problems. Whether creating a pizza in the role play area or designing a new LEGO structure, children draw upon their experiences, imagination and creativity. They learn to adapt, change and refine their ideas as they work.

Through carefully planned opportunities, children begin to develop the foundations of the design process.

#### **Key Principles:**

- Children should be immersed in rich, varied artistic experiences.
- Learning should be playful, exploratory, and hands-on.
- Opportunities should be embedded across all areas of the curriculum.
- Adults should model expressive language and support reflective thinking about artistic processes.

#### **Relevant Early Learning Goals (ELGs):**

##### **ELG: Fine Motor Skills (Physical Development)**

- Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes, and cutlery.
- Begin to show accuracy and control when drawing and constructing.

##### **ELG: Self-Regulation**

- Set and work towards simple goals.
- Wait for what they want and control their impulses when appropriate.
- Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity.
- Follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

##### **ELG: Creating with Materials**

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques.
- Experiment with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Share their creations, explaining the processes they have used.

**In EYFS, children have opportunities to:**

- Explore the texture, movement, feel and appearance of different media and materials.
- Respond to a range of materials, understanding that they can manipulate them to create different effects.
- Use a variety of media and construction materials to express their own ideas.
- Construct with a purpose in mind, selecting from a range of resources.
- Develop the skills to use simple tools and techniques competently and safely.
- Select appropriate resources for a chosen product and adapt their work when necessary.

Children are encouraged to talk about their ideas, reflect on their choices and describe how they have adapted their work. This builds confidence, communication skills and an early understanding of the design process. These early experiences build confidence, resilience and independence, laying strong foundations for the progressive Design and Technology curriculum children continue to develop throughout their time at Downham.