GFM Design, Technology, and Innovation Policy

Policy Updated By	Latest Publish Date	Monitoring Cycle
Jacqueline Morris	January 2024	Bi-Annually

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This policy was ratified on:	January 2024
The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the:	Principal and Senior Leadership Team
The Policy will be reviewed bi-annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments. The next anticipated review date will be:	January 2026
Should serious incidents take place, the following external persons/agencies should be informed:	Akram Tarik (Principal) and in his absence (Vice Principal)

This policy is applied at GFM alongside our school's vision, mission and values. Interwoven with the principles of High Performance Learning; values, attitudes, attributes and A.C.P. Characteristics.

Rationale

Design, Technology, and Innovation form a dynamic and essential part of our school curriculum, aligning with the UK National Curriculum. This field of study enables students to explore creativity, problem-solving, and technological innovation. Our commitment to Design, Technology, and Innovation education stems from the recognition that these skills are crucial for adapting to an ever-evolving world and contributing to advancements in various industries.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) - Creativity and Critical Thinking

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, our focus is on fostering creativity and critical thinking through hands-on experiences. Students engage in age-appropriate activities that introduce basic design concepts, problem-solving skills, and an appreciation for creativity. Activities aim to spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and lay the foundation for future endeavors in design, technology, and innovation. We encourage students to apply their skills across the curriculum.

'At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'

GFM Design, Technology, and Innovation Policy

Primary Phase

For primary students, our Design, Technology, and Innovation curriculum build upon foundational skills, introducing them to the principles of design thinking, basic engineering concepts, and technological applications. Students explore topics such as simple machines, basic programming, and creative problem-solving. The curriculum encourages the development of design skills, technical understanding, and an appreciation for innovation. Collaborative projects promote teamwork and the application of design thinking to real-world challenges. Teachers apply computing skills across the curriculum.

Secondary Phase

In the secondary phase, our Design, Technology, and Innovation program become more specialized, offering students the opportunity to delve deeper into specific areas such as product design, engineering, and digital innovation. The curriculum includes in-depth studies in materials, prototyping, and advanced technological applications. Students are encouraged to apply widely advanced design thinking, critically analyze problems, and understand the ethical implications of technological innovations. The program fosters a sense of creativity and prepares students to be innovators in a rapidly changing technological landscape.

Assessment

Assessment in Design, Technology, and Innovation is comprehensive, encompassing design skills, technical proficiency, and the ability to innovate. Students are evaluated on their understanding of design principles, their ability to create and iterate prototypes, and their capacity to apply technology to solve real-world problems. Assessments include practical projects, design portfolios, and presentations that showcase the application of design thinking and innovation.

Enrichment

To enrich the Design, Technology, and Innovation experience, opportunities for industry visits, collaborations with professionals, and participation in innovation challenges are provided. These experiences

Vision

'At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'

GFM Design, Technology, and Innovation Policy

aim to deepen students' appreciation for the design process, foster a passion for innovation, and provide exposure to real-world applications of technology and design thinking.

Parental Involvement

We recognize the importance of parental support in nurturing creativity and innovation. Regular updates on the Design, Technology, and Innovation curriculum, resources for supporting hands-on exploration at home, and invitations to design-related events are provided. Workshops on understanding the significance of design education and strategies for encouraging creativity are organized to strengthen the partnership between the school and parents.Please read this policy in line with the Curriculum Policy.

Policy review date: January 2026

Vision

'At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'

Page **3** of **3**