

Manifesto for change in design and technology education

**DESIGN &
TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION**

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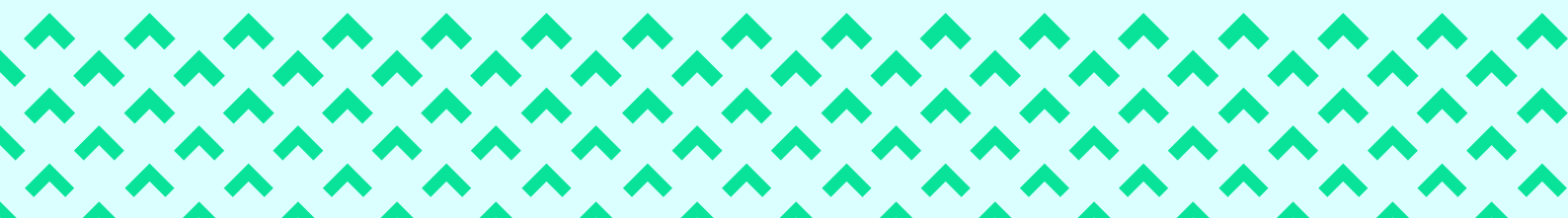
In recent years, the Design & Technology Association has worked with a range of partners, including (but not exclusive to) The IET, The Design Council, Make UK, The Edge Foundation, Baker Dearing Trust and others, to gather industry support for design and technology education.

It is a sad fact that if you are teaching design and technology at the moment, you are teaching a subject in a state of national decline. At a time when our subject is arguably more relevant than ever, we have the lowest number of students ever recorded sitting the subject at both GCSE and A Level; we have less than half the number of D&T-trained teachers that were serving in 2009, and an increasing number of schools are no longer offering the subject on their curriculum.

All of the above accepted, our glass is always half full at the Design & Technology Association, and in the last two years, we have worked with the IET (**Engineering Kids Futures**), The Design Council and twenty other partners (**A Blueprint for renewal: Design and technology education**) and our own work (**Reimagining D&T**) to map out a future for design and technology education in our schools.

Main objectives that we hope a new incoming government will work with us to deliver:

- ➔ **D&T Bursary (currently £25K) to match Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science and Mathematics (all currently £28K).** A Scholarship Programme to be introduced for design and technology teacher training (Aligning D&T with Chemistry, Computing, Maths and Physics (£30K) and French, German and Spanish (£27K)).
- ➔ **Develop and implement a funded strategy for D&T teacher recruitment, training, CPD and retention.** (Blueprint for Renewal point 2). Explore the possibility of introducing structured ways to spread best practice in D&T teaching (Example: Stimulating Physics Network). We urge the Department to rethink this decision and reinstate funding for subject knowledge enhancement programmes in primary school maths, design and technology, English, biology and RE.
- ➔ **A D&T-focused industry-to-education recruitment scheme to be introduced by summer 2025** (similar to Engineers Teach Physics). Enabling industry professionals to transition into teaching.
- ➔ **Extend the Association's KS2 CAD/CAM trial to be at least 50% government-funded and include at least 100 schools from summer 2025.** (Industry to support a structured research program into the effects and impact of this work)
- ➔ **Refine and renew the D&T subject content for 11-to-18-year-olds** (Blueprint for Renewal point 1).
- ➔ **Consider D&T in any reform of school accountability, performance and inspection measures** (Blueprint for Renewal point 3).
- ➔ **Put design at the heart of a broad, balanced and creative curriculum** (Blueprint for Renewal point 4).



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The Association pledges to work closely alongside decision-making bodies, including the DfE and other government agencies, as we seek to create a reimagined design and technology suitable for all ages, gender and abilities. We will fully involve teachers, business and industry in consultation and focused points of action research as we do so.

References:

1. DfE guidance on the availability of training bursaries and scholarships DfE guidance
2. A Blueprint for Renewal Design and Technology Education
3. Reimagining D&T Design & Technology Association
4. Engineers Teach Physics DfE Program
5. Stimulating Physics Network Program detail
6. D&T Association 3D Printer loan scheme with Create Education
7. Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programmes DfE

Please **click here** to place your company's name and logo as supporters of this manifesto. In doing so, you are helping the Design and Technology Association to save the future of the subject and are supporting the growth of the next generation of designers, engineers, manufacturers, innovators and creatives.

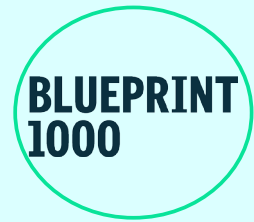
You can support us in one of three ways:



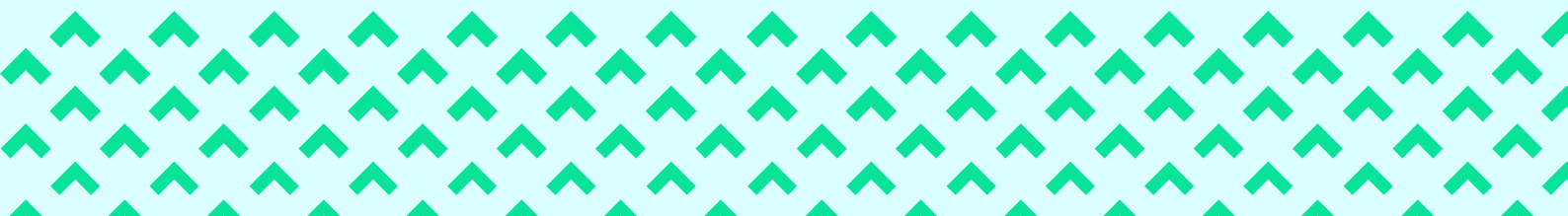
Sign to support our mission. You must be willing for us to use your name and logo on our website and campaigning materials as supporters of the 'manifesto to save and grow D&T education'.



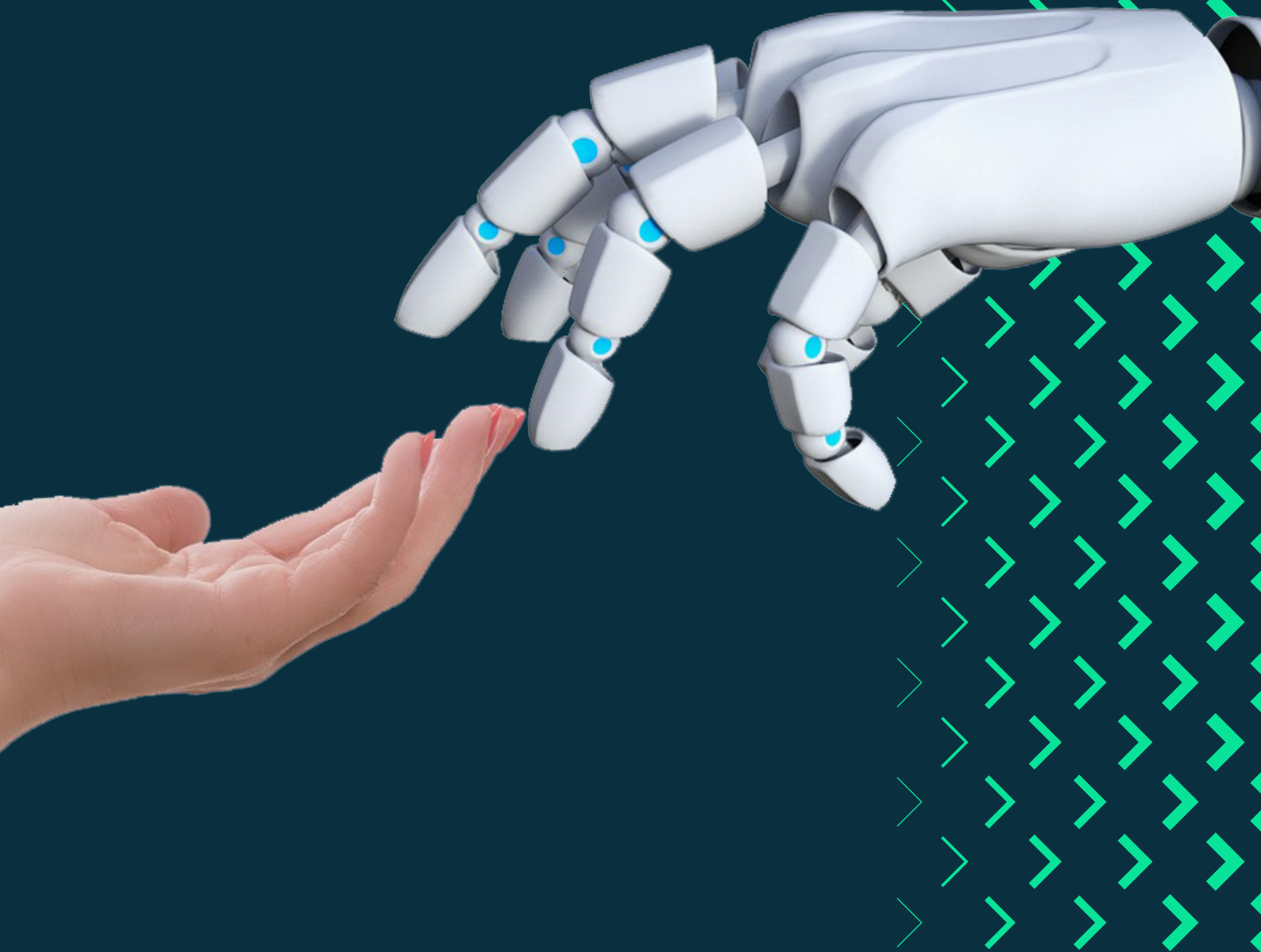
Get actively involved through involvement in our 'School Business Partnership' (SBP) initiative. Together, we bring positive action to schools directly impacting their curriculum offer.



Join us as Blueprint 1000 partner. Together, we join 1000 schools and business supporters working together over the coming years.



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