**Technology**

**Department Information**

The Technology Department is a thriving, popular and well supported area of the school. The specialist rooms provide a dynamic environment that is extremely well equipped. The Department makes a major contribution to the life and ethos of the whole school. Technology is highly regarded by the students and is always one of the most popular subjects.

At KS3 students have three hours a fortnight and the department operates a rotation system where each student spends approximately 14 lessons in each of four areas: Graphics, Resistant Materials with Systems & Control, Textiles Technology and food.

The department offers GCSE AQA Design and Technology, BTEC Construction, VCERTs in Food and Creative Craft and Life Skills. Those taking one of these options will study the subject over five periods a fortnight. Students in Year 8 will take their options at the end of this year as the school has a three year Key Stage 4.

The department has four full time specialist teachers and one vocational tutor delivering the subjects in KS3 and 4. There are also two technicians; one who supports the Graphics, Resistant Materials and Construction areas and one who supports food and Textiles.

Graphics is in an air-conditioned room which is equipped with 24 PCs with widescreen monitors. The teacher PC has Impero software installed for demonstrating to and supporting the students. There are two A1 HP Designjet printers to help with the demands of printing controlled assessment work and a Roland CAMM1 vinyl cutter with OPAS facilities. There is also a XYZ 3D prnter. Resources for Graphics include a Canon digital SLR, a small lighting setup for recording project work and an excellent Epson A3 scanner. Software available includes CorelDRAW X5, the Adobe Design Suite, Microsoft Office 2010 and more. In addition, there is an A2 spray booth for work with adhesives and four A1 Rotatrims.

The main room for Resistant Materials is very well equipped for practical and computer based activities. There is an area for design drawing with 22 laptops, a Boxford CNC Denford Triac CNC milling machine and Roland CAMM1 vinyl cutter. There is also an A2 Laser Cuter. This area includes an interactive whiteboard and also has Impero software to support students. The practical area includes traditional benches, bandsaw, sander, morticer, fretsaw, pewter casting, and more.

The second workshop is currently being cleared to become our new specialist textiles room which will be completed and ready for use after the February half term.

Textiles Technology has 11 laptops and other facilities include 11 sewing machines, 4 computerised embroidery machines, overlockers and a sublimation printer.

There is also a Materials Preparation area, storage area and separate technician office.