

Design and Technology Department

At present the Design and Technology Department consists of three qualified teachers, a Hair and Beauty Instructor and two technicians. The Head of Design and Technology is a Resistant Materials and Engineering Teacher. We have a Product Design and Electronics Teacher, a Food Specialist with a background in catering and a Resistant Materials/Photography/Graphics Teacher. We are a close-knit team that work well together for the benefit of our students.

In November 2016 we moved into a new school building with new facilities. The D&T team have pride of place in the new school with ground floor facilities that are on display at every school open event. We have a dedicated engineering workshop, a woodwork room, a graphics studio and a food room. We also have bookable IT facilities. We use a range of software, including 2D Design, Photoshop, Circuit Wizard and SolidWorks 3D CAD. CNC Machinery consists of a router, lathe, engravers and laser cutters. In addition to using modern manufacturing processes we continue to teach hands on practical making skills, using a wide range of machinery and equipment in order to fully engage our students. Alongside our new facilities within the school, we also have a Skills Centre with a Motor Vehicle workshop, Hair and Beauty room and Construction Workshop on site. This facility is run by the D&T team and there are plans in place to develop the commercial potential of this facility.

First, and foremost, we are looking for a colleague with a passion for teaching who has the skills to inspire students and always puts them first in their professional practice. There is also plenty of leadership potential within the team and across the wider school.

Our vision is to inspire as many students as possible in D&T lessons and provide them with progression pathways in KS3 and KS4. Additionally we want to attract girls into Engineering and boys into Food and Nutrition. We have extensively planned our curriculum and teaching resources to take into account collaborative learning, new assessment systems at KS3 and to prepare for the new GCSE and vocational specifications at KS4 and we work closely together to address these challenges. There is still significant room for further improvement within the team and for someone to 'make their mark' in terms of boosting pupil uptake further, adding to schemes of work, developing enrichment activities and maintaining the passion of the students.

At KS3, we follow agreed schemes of work and all teachers are involved in writing these. We deliver two lessons per week of D&T using a rotational delivery model to prepare students for the new GCSEs, provide effective progression using practical application of skills and responding to design briefs.

Students pick options in Year 8 so from Year 9 onwards we have three years of three lessons per week to deliver KS4 courses. Our current KS4 course offer consists of NQF BTEC Engineering, BTEC Tech Award in Engineering, VTCT Hair and Beauty, WJEC Food and Nutrition and AQA Photography. From September 2018 we will also deliver the new GCSE Design and Technology qualification.