

Aylesford School

and Sixth Form College



wonder aspiration respect discipline

Welcome to Aylesford!

We aim to jump, leap and stride to greater and better things – all the time. We believe in turning potential into reality, in chasing dreams and reaching for the stars! If you believe in the power of teaching and the influence it can have on young lives then we are interested in hearing from you. Our values underpin our determination to create a positive learning environment. See our website for more on our *raison d'être*.

Location

Warwick is a town of international reputation, famous for its Castle and historic connections. The School itself is on the attractive southwest side, adjacent to the green belt and within easy reach of Leamington Spa, Coventry and Stratford-upon-Avon. Junction 15 of the M40 is less than a mile away and the School is clearly visible on the left on the approach to the town.



History

The School's origins go back to the late nineteenth century. It was moved from Leamington Spa to its present site in 1964 as a response to overcrowding and the need for modernising. It opened as a School for 400, mainly Warwick students. In time it became a six-form entry Comprehensive School, attracting students from a wider area. A large prestigious housing development near the School will increase the current roll of approximately 850 to 1,000+. We became an academy on 1st January 2012 as a result of our desire to become more independent and free to control our own destiny. The school, its staff and governors have been supportive and positive in moving to this new status.

From September 2015 we have incorporated a new Primary School into our facilities and now operate as a 4-18 Academy. This is an exciting development as our fifth cohort of reception age children joined us in September 2019.



Accommodation

Subjects are housed in curriculum areas where the clustering of classrooms ensures a team approach and helps a supportive ethos. We are constantly updating facilities and upgrading accommodation to ensure the best that we can for both students and teachers. The school is kept clean and tidy classrooms are well resourced through ICT; the site is a pleasant and attractive place to work.

School Organisation

There are approximately 975 students on roll, including a Sixth Form of around 90. The teaching staff numbers 65 FTE. The Headteacher is aided by a Deputy Headteacher, an Assistant Headteacher and five Directors, who together form the Senior Leadership Team. The teaching staff play an active and important part in decision-making processes within the School, largely through, Middle Leaders Networks and staff meetings. Aylesford is open, honest and transparent in organisation, structure, ethos and culture.

Curriculum

Teaching and learning in the first three years is based on a banding system, with two mixed ability in the majority of subjects. Groups are based largely on ability in English, Maths & Science in Years 7, 8 and 9. Foundation subjects are taught within the mixed ability bands. The curriculum at Key Stage 3 comprises:

Core

English
Mathematics
Science
Religious Education
Citizenship
PE
History
Geography

Art
Music
Drama
Information Technology
French
Spanish
Design and Technology – Product Design
Textiles Technology
Food Technology
Graphics



During Year 9, there is an extensive programme in which parents also play an important part to assist students in making informed subject choices at 14+. There is a wide 'Core' programme and a limited range of choice within the options system. The curriculum ensures that both breadth and balance are maintained for all until the end of Key Stage 4. The 'Core' subjects are as follows:

English Language and Literature
 Mathematics
 Science, Separate Sciences or Double Award
 Physical Education
 Religious Education
 Personal, Social and Health Education

Students are then able to select four more subjects from the following:

History	Geography
Photography	IT BTEC
French	Art
Spanish	Physical Education BTEC & GCSE
Music/Music Technology	Child Development
Graphics	Food Technology
Product Design	Drama
Business BTEC	Media
Textiles	Electronics

In Years 10 and 11, students follow examination courses, mostly leading to GCSE. The Sixth Form generally points towards GCE 'A' Level and VCE Advanced courses (Business and PE).

The curriculum is delivered by subject departments. School self-evaluation is a valued framework for all aspects of our work and includes a full Performance Management programme, work trawls, line management support and development planning.

CPD

The School is committed to the on-going development of its staff. There is a weekly CPD Programme, currently on Monday twilight that keeps staff up to date on key issues and asks them to explore developments in some depth. We consider active involvement in the teaching and learning process to be the best form of training and support teachers in their role. The staff are the most important resource of any school and we seek to promote an atmosphere that allows them to do their job well.

Rewarding Achievements

The individual efforts of students are recognised. Years 7 and 8 take part in the Gold Run – a system of awarding House Points, which students collect until they receive Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Certificates. In Year 9 and Year 10 Awards take place and recently we have introduced the 'ACE' Award for students in Year 11. Awards are also presented for sporting achievements. In November each year there is a formal Awards Evening, which recognises academic excellence and students' contributions in the community. The school is run so that the rewards system feeds into Houses; Stoneleigh, Ragley and Charlecote. All competitions, events and points contribute to a house total and an annual winner.



Business and Industry Links

Aylesford School has developed excellent links with local employers. Members of the local industrial and business community are often in School to provide their advice and expertise. Projects include:

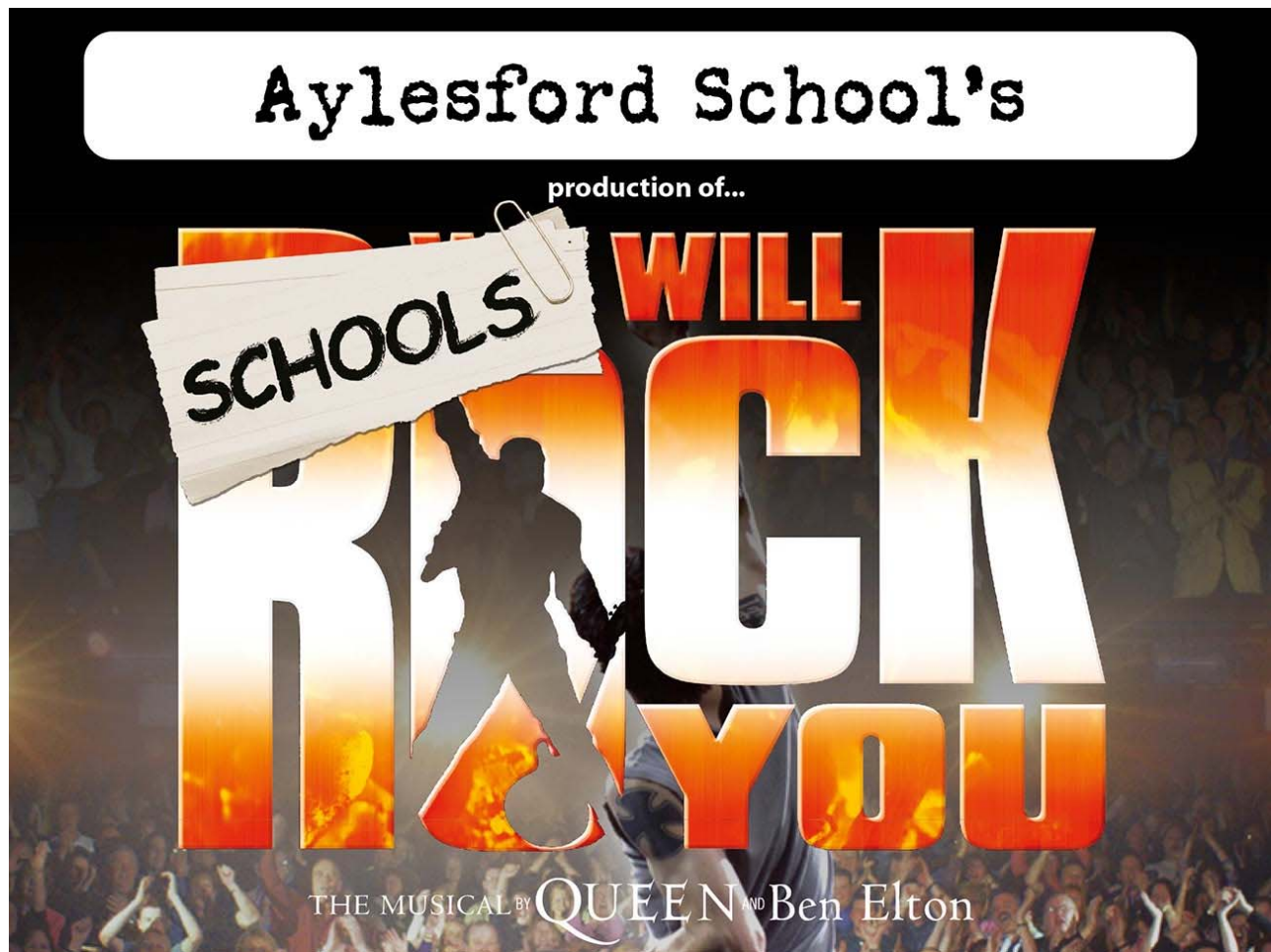
Annual Day events focusing on History (Year 7) Citizenship (Year 9) International Day (Year 8)
Year 11 Mock Interviews
Year 10 Careers talks/Enterprise Days
Work Experience for Year 12 on request (including Foreign WEX placements)
Sixth Form Industrial Conferences and UCAS preparation
Teacher Placements

Extra-Curricular activities/visits

The School offers a full range of extra-curricular activities, including:

Sport	Music
Drama	Continental trips and visits
Skiing	Army courses
Activity Weekends	Theatre visits
Young Enterprise	Duke of Edinburgh Award
School Council	

Educational visits are a regular feature of the work in the majority of subjects and we place great value on residential visits that broaden horizons and help create an independent spirit!



Pastoral Care

There is no strict academic/pastoral divide. Heads of Student Progress have the responsibility for day-to-day management in social and educational matters including pupil progress. Tutor groups are of mixed ability and a Personal, Social and Health Education programme is taught in all year groups.

School Council

The School Council consists of representatives from each Year. It regularly discusses all aspects of School life, it makes recommendations, and its views are often taken into account before decisions are made.

Aylesford Fund Raisers

There is a long-established and active fund raising committee which supports a number of School activities and which raises substantial sums of money for the School. Almost £5000 is raised each year by the combined efforts of students, parents and staff and the money raised is ploughed back into additional resources for the benefit of the students.

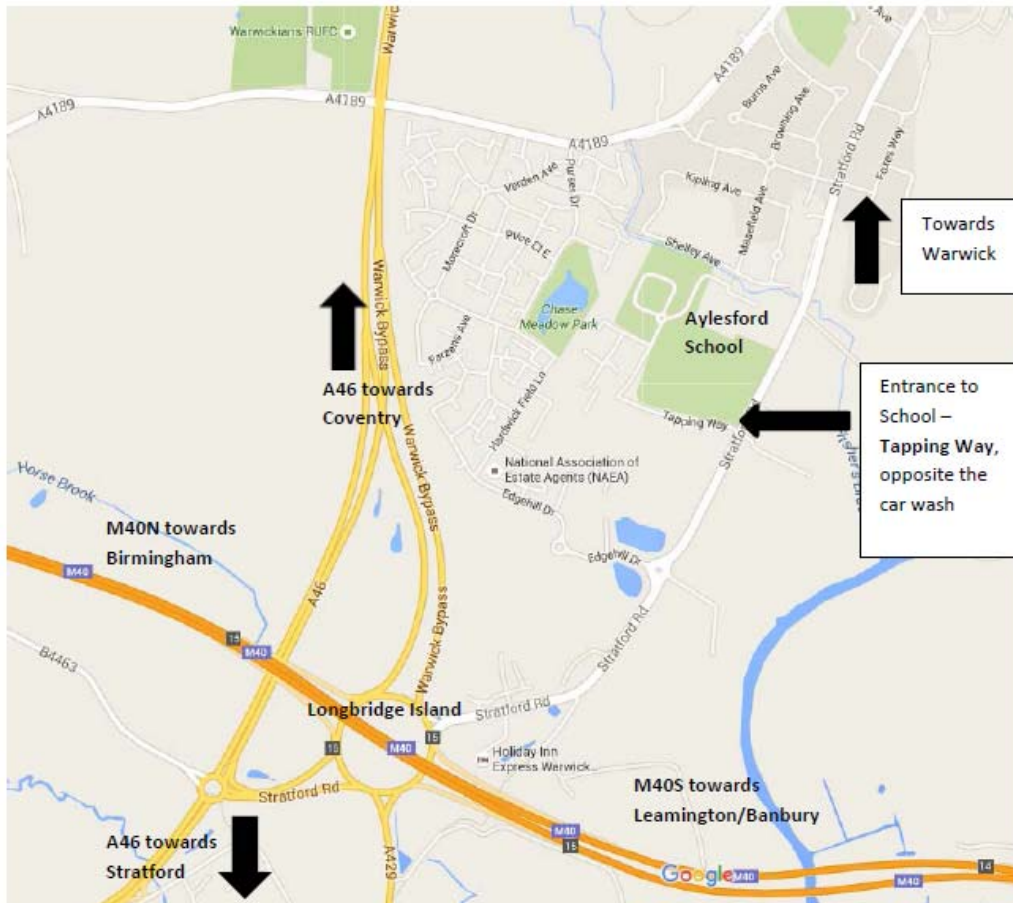
The Future

Aylesford is a thriving, energetic place to teach and learn. On the basis of demographic changes and planned housing development, the future of Aylesford School is assured. We look forward with excitement to the continuous challenges that will arise in the years ahead.



Aylesford School location:

Aylesford School & Sixth Form College, Tapping Way, Warwick, CV34 6XR



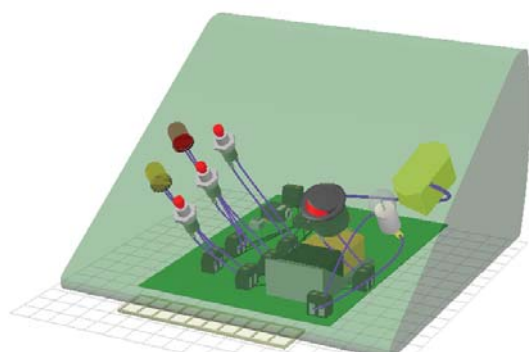
To find out more about our school visit www.aylesfordschool.org.uk

GCSE - Design & Technology - Electronic Product option

Course Structure			
Unit	Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	Weighting (%)
1	Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	2 hour written exam 100 marks	50
2	Substantial design and make task Practical application of Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	Non-examined Assessment (35 hours) 100 marks	50

What does the course involve?

Year 10	GCSE Electronic Product option is for students who like to Design and Make things using electronics. It will comprise of a mix of short, focused design and make projects using electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices, building on their previous experiences. Along with theory lessons covering the core technical principles.
Year 11	Coursework Will comprise of a substantial design and make task that is based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing candidates' ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify, investigate, analyse and outline design possibilities • design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness for purpose
	Exam A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical principles • designing and making principles along with their ability to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology.



design, computing and

Skills you will develop

Design and Technology will enable you to understand and apply iterative design processes through which you explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes. You will be able to use creativity and imagination to design and make functional prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering your own and others' needs, wants and values. Design and Technology will provide opportunities for you to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and the humanities.

Electronics is a subject I always look forward to. It's also a subject that I leave feeling satisfied as I enjoyed it greatly. The subject is very rewarding, but challenging too.
Jordan Slater-GCSE student

GCSE - Design & Technology - Graphic Products option

Course Structure			
Unit	Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	Weighting (%)
1	Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	2 hour written exam 100 marks	50
2	Substantial design and make task Practical application of Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	Non-examined Assessment (35 hours) 100 marks	50

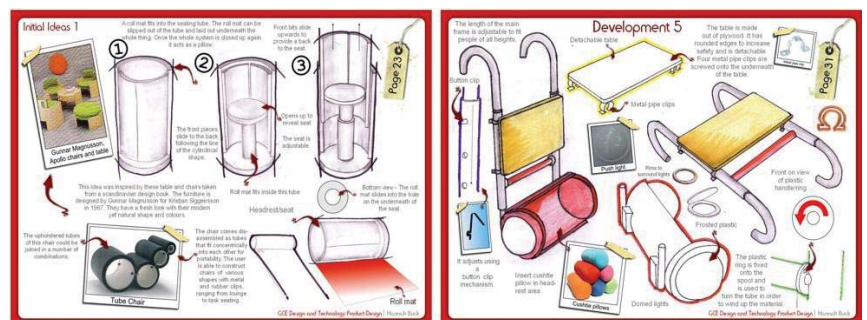
What does the course involve?

Year 10	Graphic Products enables students to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of graphic and modelling materials. It will comprise of a mix of short, focused design and make projects. Along with theory lessons covering the core technical principles.
Year 11	Coursework Will comprise of a substantial design and make task that is based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing candidates' ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify, investigate, analyse and outline design possibilities • design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness for purpose
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It's a great subject with a really friendly atmosphere. The projects that we do are very rewarding and fun to make. - James Harris GCSE student



Technology will provide opportunities for you to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and design, computing and the humanities.

GCSE - Design & Technology - Product Design option

Course Structure			
Unit	Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	Weighting (%)
1	Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	2 hour written exam 100 marks	50
2	Substantial design and make task Practical application of Core technical principles and Design & Making principles	Non-examined Assessment (35 hours) 100 marks	50

What does the course involve?	
Year 10	Product Design enables students to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials (mostly wood) and techniques. It will comprise of a mix of short, focused design and make projects, building on their previous experiences. Along with theory lessons covering the core technical principles.
Year 11	Coursework Will comprise of a substantial design and make task that is based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing candidates' ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify, investigate, analyse and outline design possibilities • design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness for purpose
	Exam A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical principles • designing and making principles along with their ability to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology.



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D&T is a great subject that has a huge practical aspect which is a great break from classrooms and learning off a whiteboard! - Ben Oliver GCSE student

PRODUCT DESIGN

About the course

Design and technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. This specification encourages learners to use creativity and imagination when applying iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants, aspirations and values

The course enables students to identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes. Students should acquire subject knowledge in design and technology, including how a product can be developed through the stages of prototyping, realisation and commercial manufacture

Students should take every opportunity to integrate and apply their understanding and knowledge from other subject areas studied during key stage 4, with a particular focus on science and mathematics, and those subjects they are studying alongside A level design and technology.

Assessment

Design and Make Practical project 50%

Written exam 50%

For the practical element students will be expected to identify and investigate design possibilities, then develop a design brief and specification. They will then have to generate and develop design ideas followed by manufacture of a prototype.

Entry Requirements

At least a grade 5 or above, in either Resistant materials or Electronics products. Along with a good understanding in maths and sciences.

Higher Education and Careers

Any product design based course along with engineering degrees or higher level apprenticeships.

Additional Information

The course will be taught by Mr Woolley and Mr Bainbridge.

"Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works."

– Steve Jobs

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."

– Albert Einstein