

Coombe Girls' School
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Design and Technology

At Coombe, we offer Food Preparation & Nutrition, Fashion & Textiles, Product Design, Electronics. Our teachers work closely together to plan and deliver an integrated approach to the subject. Technicians offer additional support for three days a week.

The department is situated in a purpose built suite of rooms that comprises 2 multi-material workshops, 2 food rooms, 1 dedicated textiles room and an ICT suite with well-resourced and supported CAD CAM facilities.

The Department is proud to have an important and recognised status within the school and works hard to maintain this by participating in, and devising cross-curricular activities and events. Students are always enthusiastic about the subject and the extra-curricular opportunities it offers. As a result, they achieve a high level of creative understanding and output. Staff and student relationships are excellent and based on high expectations of behaviour and academic achievement.

At KS3, DT is delivered in three 60 minute lessons per fortnight. All schemes of work have been updated thoroughly to reflect curriculum changes and take into account Assessment without levels. Students benefit from a wide variety of projects designed to provide them with the skills and knowledge required to solve problems in a creative and innovative manner. The pupils are taught in mixed ability groups and those requiring additional help are supported by a very experienced and effective pastoral team. Students rotate around material areas with their teachers providing consistency.

At KS4, students have the option of continued study, and can opt to follow a full GCSE course in either Food Preparation and Nutrition or Design & Technology.

In recent years the department has consistently achieved GCSE A* - C pass rates above that of the national average. Regular trips to galleries and museums help to promote an interest in the history and modern context of the subject.

At KS5 students follow AQA A2 courses in Product Design, Fashion & Textiles. We hope in the future to extend this offer with a food course in the sixth form.

Opportunities exist within the department for professional development and training. The Department is forward thinking and innovative, and is keen to improve all aspects of its teaching in the coming years.