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THE TEAM /FACILITIES

We are a department comprising of five teaching staff supported by three technicians and an administration assistant. We are a dynamic team who work closely together to offer a fully integrated programme across a wide range of Design & Technology specialisms. We meet regularly for the sharing of ideas and the production of a wide range of teaching resources.

Accommodation in Newport Pagnell comprises two specialist purpose built Food rooms, two workshops, an Engineering workshop, and two multi-use computer rooms. At Olney Campus, there are three rooms: Food; Resistant Materials and a computer room. CAD/CAM and ICT facilities are available at each campus.

GROUPINGS

We teach mixed-ability groups at Key Stage 3. Students with special needs are supported by both the teacher and Learning Support Assistants. At KS4 students are banded within chosen subject options.

KEY STAGE 3

Students are taught one period a week in Year 7, and one period a week in Year 8. Areas of study include: Food, Design and Textiles. A large percentage of students choose to study Design & Technology in Year 9. They are able to opt for either GCSE Food or Design Technology and are taught two periods a week.

KEY STAGE 4

KS4 Options include: AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, AQA GCSE Design Technology, BTEC Tech Award Engineering and WJEC Hospitality & Catering. Students are taught three periods a week.

POST-16

The department is currently offering A-Level AQA Design & Technology Product Design. Students are taught four periods a week, plus one allocated private study lesson.

STYLE

The team aims to develop creative thinking through a problem solving approach. Purposeful 'active learning' situations develop knowledge and understanding of the subject, enabling students to become independent learners to design and make effectively. We are an active Department working closely with STEM learning and local employers to include real life learning. It is our belief that Design & Technology should be an enjoyable, creative learning experience undertaken in a safe working atmosphere.