

**Design & Technology Department**

We are looking for a highly motivated and dynamic classroom practitioner to inspire wonder and intellectual curiosity through developing compassionate students who strive for excellence in the face of challenge and are adaptable in an ever-changing technological world.

Design and Technology helps pupils to develop the ability to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques. The Design and Technology Department is staffed by three experienced teachers with varying areas of expertise. This structure provides rounded support to creative pupils, no matter where their particular strengths lie.

In Years 7-8, students will be taught on a rotation basis in four areas: Food, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Systems and Control. Subject areas is explored through a series of practical projects. This stage of the curriculum is highly focussed on experiences of product analysis, enabling pupils to ‘learn through doing’. Teachers exemplify individual stages of the design process to develop skills and knowledge in readiness for examination levels. Schemes of work are constantly reviewed and updated, to allow pupils to make the most of the workshop equipment.

In year 7 these will take the form of research, investigation, design and focused practical tasks. Unit of work will have a focus on developing skills in problem solving. This is within a workshop environment which demands high standards of behaviour.

In year 8 students will be completing an extended project in each area of technology. All areas will have a focus on developing knowledge and understanding of materials. Processing and developing design solutions. Food will have a focus on multicultural foods and nutrition. Materials being used in Resistant Materials will be wood, metal and plastics when studying mechanisms. Systems will focus on programming and microcontrollers when developing construction skills.

In year 9 students begin their GCSE courses which run for three years. Approximately two thirds of each year group opt to continue Design and Technology at GCSE. Design and Technology at GCSE is designed to foster awareness amongst candidates of the need to consider the sustainability and environmental impact of their designs. It continues to provide candidates with the opportunity to design and make a product using a range of materials. At present, teaching follows the AQA Resistant Materials specification. Pupils are required to develop their knowledge of woods, metals, plastics and composite materials. Graphic products where Pupils will be taught how to use a number of 2D and 3D software packages and will have access to state-of-the-art equipment when completing their coursework and Catering. It is useful, although not a requirement, for candidates to have studied the subject at Key Stage 3. The GCSE specification then provides an excellent route into studying Product Design A level in the Sixth Form.

Resources

The Design and Technology Department features two traditional teaching workshops. One is predominantly used for woodwork whilst the other is set up for metalwork. Both workshops feature quality, modern equipment including a state-of-the-art laser cutter. The Department also has a versatile classroom area and computer suite with networked PCs, CAD software, printing and scanning for Graphics, Systems and control and in addition Food technology facilities.

The successful candidate will join a team of dedicated Design and technology teachers who are passionate about encouraging our students to become open-minded learners through the exploration of creativity and Design.