

CURRICULUM INTENT STATEMENT OCTOBER 2020

Aims: The Design & Technology department endeavours to provide a broad, rich and inspiring curriculum, which is relevant to contemporary life and our students' needs. The curriculum for Design & Technology aims to ensure all pupils can produce creative, innovative and effectively realised focused practical tasks and products that are needed, wanted or valued by society at large.

To enable our students:

- to explore and experiment with ideas and record and practice their experiences.
- to become confident and capable with a range of skills in designing, manufacturing, using hand tools, equipment and processes and become proficient at using CAD/CAM, in addition to a wide range of additional craft-based techniques.
- to be able to analyse products using technical language, keywords and vocabulary relevant to design & technology.
- to be knowledgeable and aware of great historical and contemporary design movements, key designers, artists and craft makers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their work
- To be able to use a design influence to inspire design thinking without copying.
- Students will be introduced to a wide range of materials and will learn their properties, characteristics and uses, enabling them to select

Implementation: Students will be taught to develop their original thinking, creativity and realisation of ideas and increase their manufacturing skills and abilities to practise and present their ideas and knowledge. They will develop a critical understanding of historical and contemporary designers, artists, architects and crafts people.

- Students will be able to express reasoned and thoughtful judgments that inform and explain their own work and ideas with maturity and independence.
- Students will use a range of manufacturing skills and production techniques and will record their findings in presentation pages and other media as a core basis for exploring their ideas.
- Students will use a range of manufacturing techniques and media, including drawing, model-making, prototyping, rapid sketching and digital media to increase their confidence and proficiency in the handling of different materials.
- Students will be able to analyse and evaluate their own work, and that of others, in order to strengthen the visual impact and depth of their work.
- Students will study the history of design through key design movements and architecture, including periods, styles and major movements from ancient times up to the present day through curriculum projects and independent tasks.

Impact:

The impact of the Design and Technology curriculum will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. The curriculum fosters lifelong learning skills, to enrich future adult life and to support and encourage students towards careers in design, the creative industries and beyond. It will endeavour to nurture and build strong character with a broad-minded outlook.

The Design and Technology curriculum enables students to gain the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating. The majority of the curriculum is delivered through the practical application of this knowledge and understanding. The subject content has been split into three sections as follows: • Core technical principles • Specialist technical principles • Designing and making principles. Specialist technical principles covers specialist technical principles where students will go into greater depth. Each principle is taught through at least one material category (These are Paper & Board, Timbers, Metals and Polymers). The curriculum sets out what students must know and understand to ensure they study the topic in appropriate depth in order to meet the requirements of the parameters in which the subject will be assessed.

We believe the Design & Technology curriculum is both challenging and enjoyable and that our students know how to progress in the subject and feel fully supported by department teaching staff and technicians. Students are given high quality teaching, extensive resources and access to modern technologies including CAD/CAM such as plotter cutters, vinyl cutters and a laser cutter. There is a strong ethos of success within the department and extensive extra-curricular sessions.