

Design Technology

Making the Grade. Learn the pathway to academic success.

Subject Teachers: Mr E Clayton and Mrs K Cato

Curriculum Area: Design Technology, Art and Photography

Key Dates:

- Monday 19th April – Start of Biomimicry Project

Overview of Year 9:

Component 1: Written exam (120 minutes, 50% final grade)

Component 2: Non-exam assessment (30-35 hours, 50% final grade)

GCSE Design Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Throughout year 9, students get the opportunity to work through a series of broad and wide-ranging projects that enables them to refine their abilities in designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. Year 9 students study core, technical and designing and making principles, which covers a broad range of design processes, materials, techniques and equipment. The expansive curriculum in year 9 acts as a spring-board, empowering students to transfer their skills and foundational knowledge into years 10 and 11.

How can families contribute to success on this course?

- Supporting and understanding the importance of completing homework by deadline dates.
- Visit design museums, particularly Business Design Centre, Islington for their annual exhibition of graduate design work.
- Support for maths and science knowledge as these are both relevant to successful completion of this GCSE course.
- Drawing of objects in both 2D and 3D designs, including 'exploded' drawings and considering component parts of products.
- Understanding how products are assembled – visit to IKEA / B&Q and other DIY and home improvement stores.
- Visit to V&A (Victoria and Albert) Art and Design Museum:
https://www.vam.ac.uk/?gclid=EAlaIqObChMImaLI1br25AIVSdTeCh0v7Q2NEAYASAAEgl27fD_BwE

Resources for success:

- Textbook: AQA GCSE (9-1) Design & Technology 8552 by M J Ross ISBN: 978-1910523100
- Use of Satchel:One
- Seneca Learning (<https://www.senecalearning.com/>); a very useful knowledge and revision resource which uses spaced repetition, active retrieval, interleaving, multimodal representations and visual memory cues to increase students' retention of information.
- AQA website GCSE Design Technology: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse>
- You Tube
- Technology Student, New DT specification:
http://www.technologystudent.com/despro_flsh/NEW_GCSE3.html

Specification Information:

- AQA - GCSE in Design and Technology 8552