



Design & Technology Faculty

Design and Technology is a highly successful faculty, which continually delivers on results year on year and in 2015 was awarded the Good Schools Guide for excellent performance by boys taking Design and Technology at an English Comprehensive school (GCSE), in addition to the numerous regional and national awards achieved.

All disciplines, including food technology, textiles technology, resistant materials and systems and control use engineering as a focus. The team are developing strategies to work collaboratively with the mathematics and science faculties as well as across the school. A creative but rigorous approach to design and problem solving using up to date technology is central to the developing identity of the faculty.

The faculty is extremely well resourced. All rooms have projectors, two of which have electronic whiteboards. There are around 80 computers within the faculty, available for student use. CAD/CAM is a major resource within the department and we try to emulate industrial and commercial practices whenever possible. Our facilities include: one laser cutter, one CNC lathe, one CNC milling machine, a 3D printer, two small CNC milling routers, one Roland plotter/cutter and two Stika machines, one sublimation printing unit with large bed heat press, four computer embroidery machines and 20 sewing machines. Food technology rooms are well equipped and also have a blast chiller.

There are currently 8 teaching staff in the faculty. Technical support is provided by a team, which includes a full time Design & Technology Technician and a part time Design & Technology Technician, and one part time Food Technician dedicated to food technology.

Design and Technology is taught across years 7 to 11. Students are then able to opt to follow an A level route. At Key Stage 3, students study all areas of Design & Technology. They have two 60-minute lessons a week using a carousel arrangement, to teach food, textiles, resistant materials and systems and control and are taught by their specialist subject teacher. We offer a 3-year KS4. At KS4, we offer AQA GCSE Design and Technology, following the timbers or textiles route, OCR CNAT Engineering design, WJEC Hospitality and Catering. At Post-16 AQA Product Design and WJEX Food Science and Nutrition are taught. The faculty are looking to broaden the range of courses on offer, particularly at Post-16.

Staff in the faculty are highly motivated and their hard work and commitment have made the subjects within the faculty a great success within the school. They have worked within the local community on a range of projects including "Engineering days" with local primary schools and CAD evening courses for parents. Students have also entered local and national competitions, including Advanced Androids, Hope Extreme Engineering Challenge, Young Engineers, Engineering Education Scheme (England), Rotary Club for Food and Arkwright Scholarships. Textiles and Resistant Materials students have been very successful for many years with the Young Craftsman of the Year award, winning in both areas.

Selection of rooms within the Design & Technology Faculty



Examples of students' work

