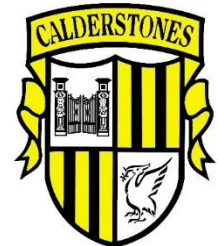


# Calderstones School

## Technology Department Information



The Technology Department at Calderstones School comprises seven teaching staff (incl. one part-time teacher) and two specialist technicians, focusing on the delivery of KS3 and KS4 Design and Technology, Food and Nutrition and KS4 Child Development. The department consists of the Head of Department, a TLR holder for Food and Nutrition and a teacher with responsibility for KS4 Child Development.

We value teamwork, commitment, and integrity. We pride ourselves in having extremely high standards for ourselves and for the students. We are a friendly, supportive department who share enthusiasm for working together to consistently improve our practice.

We firmly believe that every student can excel, and we do our utmost to ensure that standards of teaching are high. We believe that every student can reach their full potential.

We ensure that students have the opportunity to gain a broad understanding of our subject whilst instilling a love of cooking in pupils that will open a door to one of the great expressions of human creativity. Learning how to cook is a crucial life skill that enables pupils to feed themselves and others affordably and well, now and in later life. We also want to make students inquisitive about materials, products, and systems in the developed world that we live in. We want them to be inquisitive, develop creatively and cultural awareness through the experiences of designing and making. Studying Child Development gives students an insight into the excitement, considerations and responsibility enveloping the development of children.

It is important that students value their learning and our department has more to offer than qualifications. Our department is dedicated to being the best that we can be. We are passionate about developing practical skills alongside knowledge and understanding. We go that extra mile to give our students the best experience possible.

There have been positive changes to our curriculum provision in recent years, including all students in year 7, 8 and 9 having a lesson in Design Technology and Food & Nutrition each week. These are in mixed attainment sets at Key Stage 3.

While it is not compulsory to study GCSE Food & Nutrition, GCSE Design Technology or Child Development at KS4, many students choose to do so. Students have two lessons per week in year 10 and three lessons in year 11. We follow the AQA exam board for GCSE Design Technology, Eduqas Food Preparation and Nutrition, and WJEC (Eduqas) for Child Development.

The Department is located in its own Design Technology wing, alongside some classrooms. The department boasts 3 Multi-purpose Workshops, 2 dedicated Food & Nutrition kitchens and access to an ICT suite used for Child Development and theory-based lessons.

All Workshops have stores areas as well as a dedicated preparation area for the DT Technician linked to one of the workshops. The food rooms have preparation and storage areas for the full-time Food Technician.

Each room has an interactive whiteboard where staff computers can be linked up to support delivery of teaching. There is also a dedicated separate staff room in the teaching block.

Detailed schemes of work and curriculum plans are in place for all key stages and while we emphasize the importance of ensuring that the curriculum is covered, we are passionate about ensuring that teaching is responsive and meets the needs of individual students. The department is extremely proactive in sharing resources, and we have built up a wealth of excellent shared resources.

**Mr. Neil McCarthy - Head of Technology**