



Art and Design Technology Faculty

The Art and Design Technology Faculty consists of a wide range of subjects allowing students to work creatively in different medias. All subjects give a practical approach to learning through exciting projects. The department has a range of well attended clubs and workshops and is popular with students.

Design & Technology (D&T) Department

Department Ethos

The D&T department has a clear vision to deliver a modern, inspiring and challenging design and technology curriculum that prepares our students for the 21st century technological world by giving students a technological understanding and perspective of the modern world.

We are an ambitious and high performing department that achieves strong results at GCSE and A-level and we aim to be an example of excellence within and beyond the school. We provide a safe environment for learning, with a "can do" ethos to ensure that all students are successful.

At Trinity, our D&T curriculum aims to enthuse students to explore, imagine and create through exciting and challenging contexts, giving students opportunities to approach problem solving in a creative way and provide them with the skills needed to allow them to see their ideas come to life.

Accommodation

Our accommodation consists of a range of modern facilities which are being continually developed to ensure that our students have the very best environment for learning. Our excellent facilities include a large Workshop/Makerspace with a wide range of tools and machinery; a multi-purpose Fab (Fabrication) Lab with a variety of CNC machinery including a laser cutter and 3D printer as well as sewing machines and a sixth form study area; a recently refurbished digital design studio with touch screen computers and iPads; a state of the art catering kitchen; a Design and Inspiration Library full of books, resources and products for students to use in lessons and we are currently in the process of planning a brand new Technology and Innovation Hub which will allow students to further explore developing technologies as part of the curriculum. Facilities that we also share with art and photography include spacious art studios and a well-equipped photography room with Mac computers.

Staff

The department is made up of four specialist members of teaching staff and benefits from the support of two technicians. We are a supportive team and regularly collaborative as a faculty to develop our teaching and learning craft and share expertise in order to support our own professional development. We also utilise links with outside agencies and professionals in order to offer enrichment opportunities for our students, including links with Newbury College, local furniture company Benchmark and The Newbury and District Agricultural Society. We are also very lucky to have our own Designer in Residence who works with talented students across different year groups in workshops throughout the year.

Curriculum

The D&T department offers a broad range of learning opportunities throughout key stage 3 and every student benefits from one-two hours a week of D&T.

At key stage 3, D&T is taught in four different projects throughout the year and students are taught on a carousel basis. Students cover a range of projects working with a range of materials.

Our curriculum is modern, forward thinking and challenging and each project will focus on being either 'mainly designing' to develop students' design knowledge and skills; 'mainly making' to develop practical knowledge and skills; or 'designing and making' where students bring together their design and practical knowledge and skills. Alongside this we aim to develop students' digital literacy skills through a modern curriculum and modern use of technologies to support learning.

At key stage 4, students can choose from two options — GCSE Design and Technology or Level 1/2 Catering. We also offer Design and Technology (Product Design) at A-level.

Many new changes have taken place with our curriculum over the past year and a half and we are always open and welcome to new ideas to help us further develop our D&T curriculum offer at Trinity.

Extra Curricular Activities

D&T offers a full range of after-school clubs, including Maker club where students are able to use different materials and tools in our Workshop/Makerspace; Open Kitchen where students can make a dish of their choice and develop their catering skills; and Adobe Design Club for students who wish to gain new skills in graphic design. We also have close links with The Newbury and District Agricultural Society who run Cookery School once every half-term throughout the year as well as this year, students being part of the Cookery Theatre at the Royal County of Berkshire Show. A number of exciting trips run during the year. In addition to this, we also run a school magazine club and have a workshop for the Pupil Design Awards running as part of the Trinity Talent Programme.

Throughout the year, the department also runs regular whole-school events and competitions, including a design competition, a D&T week full of activities and also an end of year Design Show exhibiting GCSE and A-level D&T work. We also run a number of popular Community Workshops during the year for families to get involved in D&T. We aim to ensure that D&T and creative talent is celebrated across the school and local community.

Our department also regularly takes part in national design competitions with students from all key stages and in 2019, students took part in the Design Museum's 'Design Ventura' competition, as well as the V&A's 'Innovate' design challenge. We are incredibly proud that a group of our Year 9 GCSE D&T students were shortlisted in the Top 10 entries nationally for the 2019 Design Ventura Competition.

We regularly use social media to share what is going on in the department and our students' successes – please take a look at these feeds to find out more about what's going on in the department:

Twitter – @trinityschdt

Instagram - @trinityschdt