

HIGHWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Maidstone Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8UD
Telephone: 01233 624910
E-mail: HR@highworth.kent.sch.uk
Website: www.highworth.kent.sch.uk



Teacher of Design and Technology **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Highworth Grammar School is a successful 11-18 selective girls' school with approximately 80 boys in the Sixth Form. There are 1536 students on roll – 1088 in Years 7-11 and 448 in Years 12 and 13. Our school is widely recognised as being innovative and highly successful. Highworth has a strong academic reputation and our students are recognised as mature and reliable young people. We aim to deliver the best possible education to all of our students in a safe and secure environment

Our motto of 'Reach for the Stars' embodies the daily working life of the whole school community; students are encouraged to see learning as a lifelong activity. A key feature of our motto is happiness which is achieved through excellent student behaviour in lessons; clear policies and guidance; strong leadership; and enthusiastic community spirit. It is important that both staff and students feel confident, happy and valued.

Students at Highworth are given rewards for creativity, problem solving, achievement resilience and team work. We value the development of a full range of skills to offer students the best preparation for future challenges. Working here allows staff to share this balanced approach to education; embrace new ideas; and sustain a sense of enjoyment in their own learning.

Whilst the school is academic we recognise and fully support the creative aspects of the curriculum and are proud of the many opportunities provided for achievement in music, DT, and the arts. We believe this is crucial in our ethos in encouraging our students to be independent, creative and highly motivated lifelong learners.

During the June 2013 Ofsted Inspection the school was judged as an Outstanding School. In 2019 our A Level results placed us in the top 25% of schools nationally.

FEATURES OF THE SCHOOL

These include:

- Caring, supportive and committed staff
- Commitment to professional development
- High academic standards with a large proportion of outstanding lessons
- Vertical Tutoring
- Cloud storage and software provided by Google.
- Laptop for every teacher
- Wireless multimedia projector for every classroom
- 2 dedicated ICT suites (air conditioned)
- 28 mobile laptop trolleys
- New sports hall
- 10 dedicated Science labs
- 3 Performing Arts studios
- Music Technology suite and recording studio
- DT suite with latest technology

- Research into use of new technologies/pedagogy
- Cover supervisors to minimise staff cover
- 10 day timetable with five one hour lessons per day. Current maximum teaching time for full time teachers is 45 out of 50 teaching periods

Students

The school has a wide catchment area, taking students from over 40 primary schools, many of which are situated in small villages within the Kent countryside. Entry at age 11 is by the Kent Education Committee Selection Procedure, which aims to identify the top 25% of the ability range. Some students transfer to our school at 16+ from other schools.

Staff

We are fully committed to the professional development of all our staff. All new teachers and ECTs follow a well informed and structured induction programme. All staff are encouraged to pursue personal goals and the school fully embraces interest in pastoral and pedagogical innovation. Every member of staff takes part in the annual performance development scheme which also embodies our motto of 'Reach for the Stars'.

Curriculum

Our curriculum at Key Stage 3 includes all the National Curriculum subjects (Art & Design, English with Drama, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Languages - French, German and Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Dance, Religious Education, Design Technology, Computing and Science).

We offer all Key Stage 3 subjects through to A Level together with Business Studies, Dance, Economics, Film Studies, Further Mathematics, Government & Politics, Media, Photography, Psychology, Sociology and Theatre Studies.

In the current Year 12, students take three or four A Level subjects, continuing with at least three to full A level. They can also take the Extended Project and qualify for the AQA Bacc. The majority of our students proceed to courses at Universities and in the last academic year all students who made applications, successfully found suitable places in higher education.

THE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Design & Technology Department at Highworth Grammar School is a friendly and dedicated team that aim for the highest level of achievement from all of their students.

The department is very well appointed with 4 specialist classrooms for Design & Technology and Food Preparation and Nutrition. Each classroom is very well resourced with a wide range of hand and electrical equipment which is regularly maintained to ensure quality work can be produced. We also have seven 3D printers, a 3D scanner, two laser cutters, A3 dye sublimation facilities, a Boxford router, a Cricut plotter cutter and CAD/CAM sewing machines.

This high specification equipment enables the students to incorporate a wide range of CAD/CAM possibilities into their work from Key Stage 3 to A level. The department has excellent ICT provision enabling the students to produce work of a very high quality, using specialist D&T software such as Creo Parametric, 2D Design V3 and Nutritional Analysis software. Each workshop has a data projector and networked computers or laptops.

The Design & Technology staff have a spacious office where they can work. Here there is a A3/A4 networked black and white printer. Colour printing is also available from a stand-alone printer.

All teaching staff have individual laptop computers which are used for lesson registrations, reporting and tracking purposes (SIMS).

Curriculum

Design & Technology is studied by all students in Years 7 – 9, working towards Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum. We aim to give students the opportunity to combine their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding, in order to design and make products. The students develop their technological skills, become more technologically literate as they work through the different material areas, are able to make informed judgements about technological issues, are able to understand that constraints influence the development of their ideas, and are able to reflect on their work, and that of other people. Students work in the specialist areas of Food Preparation and Nutrition and Product Design which includes working in a variety of material areas including Resistant Materials, Textiles, Electronics and CAD/CAM. These topics inter-relate to provide a homogeneous experience in Design and Technology. The students greatly enjoy these activities and see Design Technology as real-life problem solving. KS3 group sizes are approximately 21.

Design & Technology is an option at GCSE and there are groups studying courses in Design and Technology and Food Preparation and Nutrition (Both AQA). Results for these students are consistently high. At A level students study Design and Technology: Product Design (AQA). Again, results at A level are consistently very high. Many of the A level students continue to study a Design & Technology related subject in their further education or through apprenticeships. We have subject prefects who take responsibility for organising activities for the younger students in lunchtime, enrichment and after school clubs. Students are also encouraged to enter competitions and award schemes.

Development

Staff are encouraged to maintain a high level of personal skill in their own specialist subject areas as well as increasing their teaching skills in other aspects of Design Technology, while keeping abreast of current issues in Design Technology. Relevant training is undertaken by all teaching and support staff in support of the work undertaken in the classroom, in the preparation of materials and in matters of health and safety. We run CPD for other teachers using the expertise of our staff. We have also supported PGCE students and Schools Direct placements. We have well trained and professional D&T technicians to support the work undertaken within the department. The role of the Design and Technology Technicians is wide and varied such as the preparation of materials, the preparation and maintenance of equipment. They are skilled in the use of CAD/CAM procedures and are able to support the teacher in this vital aspect of the subject. We have a large technician preparation room which houses a circular saw, band saw and a wide variety of hand-held equipment. The storage facilities for materials and equipment throughout the department is well organised with bespoke racking systems devised and maintained by the technicians.

The A Level and GCSE results for June 2022 and the Highworth Grammar School performance measure page can be accessed using this link:

<https://www.find-school-performance-data.service.gov.uk/school/136379/highworth-grammar-school>

Highworth Grammar School is committed to:

- *safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. This post will require an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)*
- *creating a diverse workforce. We will consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to sex, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity, age, disability, marriage or civil partnership.*

Teacher of Design and Technology

PERSON SPECIFICATION

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good honours degree
- Qualified Teacher Status
- Evidence of further relevant professional development (N/A for ECT applications)

SKILLS:

- Ability to lead, inspire, motivate and support students and colleagues
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Good ICT skills
- Ability to think strategically
- Ability to forge links with the wider community

EXPERIENCE

- Evidence of successful, inspiring and innovative teaching in the secondary phase, including A Level Design and Technology would be an advantage
- An excellent track record of success with public examination results. (Not applicable for applications from ECTs)
- Co-ordinating and collaborating with colleagues
- Teaching Design and Technology to GCSE
- Teaching Design and Technology to A level would be an advantage
- Experience of teaching Food and Nutrition would be an advantage

KNOWLEDGE:

- Up to date knowledge of developments in pedagogical techniques relevant to Design and Technology, such as modelling, retrieval practise and scaffolding. Teachers are provided with iPads to facilitate effective teaching techniques.

PERSONAL QUALITIES:

- High levels of personal and professional integrity
- Personal warmth to gain the confidence of students, staff and parents
- Appropriate levels of personal presentation
- Ability to communicate concisely and sensitively both orally and in writing to a variety of audiences
- A passion for teaching Design and Technology

ATTITUDES:

- A willingness to share experiences and learn from colleagues
- A team player
- A commitment to child protection and safeguarding
- A reflective and flexible approach
- Positive, enthusiastic and energetic approach to life
- Ability to think creatively and imaginatively
- Supportive of the School's ethos
- High expectations of student attainment, personal development and conduct
- Commitment to professional development