



# KING EDWARD VI HANDSWORTH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

## Technology Department

### Staffing 2020-21

Mr Mick McCarthy	Head of Technology
Mrs Virginia Adams	Teacher of DT (part time)
Ms Colin Jackson	Teacher of DT and Computing
Miss Samantha Badchkam	Teacher of DT and Computing
Mr John Coleman	DT technician
Mr Barry Harper	DT technician

Technology is taught as a discrete subject in Key Stage 3 with GCSE options in Food and Nutrition alongside Design Technology GCSE (with a focus on Graphics and Product Design).

### Facilities

The department currently has dedicated use of three practical rooms and one smaller general teaching room and access to one of the school's ICT suites. These rooms include a recently re-furnished Food room, a classroom currently fitted out for the teaching of Graphics and Textiles, and a third fitted with equipment for the teaching of many aspects of Product Design. In the Autumn term 2021 we hope to move the design technology teaching to re-furnished dedicated classrooms as part of the current build programme. All classrooms in the school are equipped with data projectors or interactive digital display screens and there are whiteboards in all areas. All staff are provided with a laptop. A wide range of software is available on computers including Microsoft Office. Google Classroom is available for all departments and students to use, the Technology department has incorporated this into our teaching and assessment policies. All staff and students have their own Google account providing access to Gmail, Google Drive etc. Computer facilities and workshop facilities are made available to students during lunchtimes. We have recently invested in CAD CAM equipment including a Laser Cutter and several 3D printers.

### External Examinations

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is a popular option and we are currently running AQA 8585. Previous results have been excellent. GCSE Design Technology AQA 8552 is growing in popularity as we have started to redevelop projects at KS3. A Level Product Design is taught within the MAT.

### Timetable

Technology is compulsory for all KS3 students. We operate a fortnightly timetable and students have between 3 or 4 lessons a fortnight depending on their Year group. We operate a rotation around three project areas throughout the academic year. In Year 8 students alternate projects between Week 1 and 2 allowing them to cover six projects throughout the year. Two form groups are split across three concurrent teaching groups this maintains reasonable class sizes for the practical elements of the course. Thus, there are always three staff teaching Technology at any one time. KS4 have 5 x 50 min lessons a fortnight and benefit from specialist teachers.

### Accommodation

Lessons are taught in one of the dedicated DT rooms, which all have Projectors, access to printers, including A3 and support from part time technicians.

## Curriculum

Schemes of learning are written in line with National Curriculum and examination board specification requirements. Our aim is to provide a high quality knowledge based schema that equips students to develop into increasingly independent & discerning learners. Our projects focus on industrial practice and we aim to increase the appetite for careers in Design and STEM.

Currently, due to the experience of teaching staff, the curriculum has been designed around the areas of Food, CAD CAM, Graphics, Product Design and some Textiles. Design and Technology makes up two thirds of the contact time and we try to include an element of CAD or CAM into every project.

We assess students looking for a combination of Design, Manufacturing and Evaluation skills as well as a Knowledge quiz per project.

## Further Information

The school is expanding, with a new Tutor Group of 32 joining each year. The Food element of Technology is always one third of the teaching load and we have an experienced part time teacher in the department. The subject is becoming more popular at GCSE so the ability to teach GCSE Food is highly desirable.

It is expected that staff within the department are able to teach across the different areas of Technology so we are looking for candidates that are comfortable working in a workshop environment. Someone who has experience with Textiles would be a compliment to the department although this is not essential.

In addition to Technology lessons we run a Textiles Club and a STEM Club as well as allowing students to take part in external competitions.

This is a unique opportunity for a dynamic and energetic candidate who is able to build on the great work we have started in changing attitudes of Technology in young minds and who could contribute further as the expansion rolls through the school.

M McCarthy  
Subject Leader for Design Technology  
March 2021