Design Technology Department

Intent:

In Design Technology we aim to develop an awareness of how technology impacts and influences our world and stimulate a curiosity to seek out opportunities to design for the world and support the needs of users.

It is our intention that the design technology curriculum inspires creativity and imagination through the exploration of a range of materials such as, wood, plastic and textiles. We encourage students to research, design and make products which solve real and relevant problems. They are encouraged to consider their own and others needs, wants and values. Students will develop an understanding of products and will also develop an understanding of the impact of past and present designers and how these can influence design.

As students' progress, they will develop a broad knowledge base of materials and their origins. They will develop their understanding of properties of materials and how they can be applied to products. Through designing we aim to develop resilient learners who can solve problems and look for solutions. We seek to develop their understanding of the impact of design on the environment and encourage them to develop as responsible designers. They will develop confidence in their practical skills in using and selecting materials. The intention is that this will develop the student's ability to make informed decisions in their work.

We aim to encourage students to take risks in their work, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens.

We encourage them to draw on other disciplines such as maths, science, art and computing and see these as transferable skills which will support their understanding of both design and technology.

Implementation:

The Design technology curriculum at KS3 is delivered in 3 lessons across a fortnight. Each student will cover 3 different material areas and study these across the academic year. This enables students to develop their knowledge and skills across the year and develop secure foundations for KS4.
In Design technology we use a range of different teaching and learning strategies to ensure all students are challenged, engaged and enjoy Design and Technology.

We use a range of different materials and equipment across Design Technology to encourage and prepare students to make choices in their work, developing confidence in the selection and application of resources.

Students will design and make products reflecting contexts set.
They will develop their technical vocabulary through the Contexts set and the materials they work with.

We will cover presentation and communication methods to enable students to understand how to present their work in a way that a third party can understand their designs.

Beyond the classroom:

Visits out are an integral part of the Food curriculum. Examples of this include Vegan cooking at Forest Green and working with professional chefs at Calcot manor.
Students are also encouraged to attend workshop sessions and clubs run across the department.