

Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles



Entry Requirements: Grade 5 or above in GCSE Textiles Design and Technology. Candidates will need to have a good understanding of the theory side of GCSE Textiles, and Science is very helpful. Must be able to use a sewing machine. Students must have a good understanding of Maths to access the mathematical parts of the exam paper. **Additionally, an E grade is needed in the AS Level to progress to the A Level.**

Exam Board: AQA

Teacher: M Shepherd, H Davies

Timetable Organisation:

We do not offer an AS in this subject because of the quantity of practical work involved. Textiles lessons are taught by a pair of teachers who cover the lessons between them in 5 lessons per week.

Fashion and Textiles inspires students to solve design problems, and in doing so they gain an in depth knowledge of what constitutes both the function and aesthetics of a Fashion garment or Textile product.

This course provides students with an understanding of the economic, social, aesthetic and political issues of the day and how these affect Textile products and Fashion trends.

At A level this course provides students with a level of knowledge equivalent to first year degree level. This means that the vast majority of our students have been accepted directly into the top Fashion courses in the UK.

A Level Specification Content:

Paper 1 worth 25% of A Level mark

2 hour exam on technical, design and making principles;

To include

- Testing of Textile Products
- Further design and illustration methods
- Use and representation of data
- CAD/CAM
- Efficient use of materials and waste minimisation
- Health and Safety
- Sustainability

- Copyright and Patent
- Marketing and Promotion
- Fashion cycles
- Designers and design movements from 20 and 21st century
- Fashion and trends
- Product analysis
- Accuracy and the use of mathematics in industry
- The work of BSI and ESO

Paper 2 worth 25% of A Level mark

2 hour exam on specialist subject knowledge including Product analysis and Manufacture

- Fibres and Fabrics
- Yarn production
- Knitted fabrics and garments
- Blending of fibres
- Construction methods
- Fastenings
- Weaves
- Finishes
- Technical and smart textiles
- Production methods
- Pattern drafting and prototypes

NEA (Non Exam Assessment-coursework) worth 50% of A Level mark

To be produced as a portfolio of written or digital evidence, of a product of your choosing.

Qualities Required

You need to enjoy coursework and the success of creating useful and beautiful pieces of design. Sketching and construction skills are important and numeracy skills are essential. A good understanding of science is also helpful.

Links with other subjects

An excellent compliment to Arts, Sciences and Business related subjects. These subjects can be studied both as a means of developing a whole range of transferable skills or as a distinct route to the professions mentioned below.

Career Prospects

Fashion Buyer; Fashion Journalist; Garment Technologist; Fashion Designer; Trend Predictor; Style Consultant; Fashion Illustrator; Stylist; Interior Designer; Print Designer, Pattern Cutter.

Extension and Enrichment Opportunities

Visits to exhibitions and places of industrial interest are vital to the understanding of product design. Many links exist between our department and outside agencies and professional help is often sought for project work involving state of the art industrial processes.