

Design & Technology

Welcome to Design & Technology!

We are all about making the world a better place. We are the people that see things others do not see, take them apart to understand how they work and then come up with inventive ways to make them better. We love designing, we love making and we love using tools and technology that make our lives easier. We are D&T!

The D&T department is completely dedicated to the subject and are passionate about creating the next generation of creative thinkers, problem solvers, practical makers and world improvers. We believe that we are unique as a subject because we give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills gained in other subject areas like Science, Mathematics, Computer Science, History, Geography, Art and many others to real life situations and projects.

Students of D&T have access to fantastic resources and equipment than enables them to bring their ideas to life, including a large computer suite with SO high specification PCs, specialist workshops for metalwork, woodwork and graphics/products, two laser cutters and a dedicated computer aided design and manufacture (CAD-CAM). GCSE and A Level students are able to use this facility at specified times in the day.

Our Curriculum

In years 7-8 (Key Stage 3), D&T is taught alongside Computer Science and Food Technology as part of the Technology faculty. Students have two Technology lessons per week and by the end of year 8 they will have completed eight 5-week D&T projects specialising in Product Design, Design Studies, Construction and Engineering and will have made and taken home, a range of products such as a laser cut USB stick, metal pliers, an MP3 dock/ speaker, wooden toy trucks, cast pewter jewellery and a wooden passive amplifier.

At Key Stage 4 (year 9-11), we offer a range of courses for all learners and abilities; vocational and academic, practical and theoretical. In year 8, students choose which D&T subjects to pursue and can opt for vocational courses in Engineering (BTEC) or Construction (WJEC) as well as Graphic Design (NCFE), where many learners go on to study GCSE Design & Technology.

At Key Stage 5 (year 12-13) we offer an A Level course in Design & Technology; Product Design (Edexcel) which is taught for 4 lessons per week. This is assessed with 50% written exam and 50% through a design and make project. It is an excellent pathway to further education and university. We have good links with local industry, where several students have completed apprenticeships, work experience placements and full time employment.

Enrichment and extracurricular Activities

Students wishing to pursue their interests in D&T outside of lesson times are encouraged to come and use the facilities for their project work whenever possible. We offer a range of clubs and mini projects for younger students to get involved with as well as D&T surgery for all older D&T students to get extra support and access to equipment every Thursday and Friday.

To enrich the learning in the classroom and workshop, we also organise a range of school trips and competitions to inspire and extend our students. Regular annual trips include visits to a Coca-Cola factory (Sidcup), Brooklands Museum (Surrey), the V&A and Science Museums (London), BMW experience and Allianz Stadium tour (Munich) as well as guided tours and D&T focussed workshops at local universities (Kingston, Surrey and Sussex).

Destinations

We have a proud history of producing well rounded learners with a range of talents that they take into the real world. Many have gone on to pursue an academic pathway at university in various areas of design (graphic design, product design, interior design, games design), engineering (mechanical, automotive, aeronautical, chemical) and the built environment (architecture, civil engineering, construction, special design). Their names can be seen engraved on the LED panels (designed and made in D&T) at the front of the school by Reception. D&T is the perfect choice for students looking to move on to various career paths including self-employment (freelance designers, inventors, entrepreneurs), building contractors (plumbers, electricians, carpenters, bricklayers, roofers, landscapers), and engineering (technicians, mechanics, machine operators, electrical engineers, gas service engineers).

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