



St Mary's Catholic School

Design and Technology Department

The Design and Technology department occupies a suite of 5 specifically designed rooms; all equipped with state of the art Smartboards and technology facilities. The facilities include 3 3D printers and a new large scale laser cutter as well as equipment for pewter, resin and Jesmonite casting. There are two full time teachers and one part time. The department also has a part time technician attached to it. The key disciplines within the department are Product Design, Graphic Design and Food.



Design and Technology Department



Key Stage 3

In Year 7 and 8, students receive 2 lessons per fortnight in the Design and Technology area. They rotate around the 3 disciplines of Product Design, Graphic Design and Food Technology on a termly basis. Year 9 have 3 lessons a fortnight and rotate through 3 projects, which focus on Product Design including CAD/CAM, Prototyping and Architecture.

Key Stage 4

Students opting for Design and Technology study GCSE AQA Design and Technology.

Key Stage 5

Students can opt for A level AQA Product Design.

There are comprehensive schemes of work and resources for all Key Stages, providing structured learning and regular assessment. Students are encouraged to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Design and Technology using varied approaches to learning. There are formal assessments throughout the year and achievement data is reported to parents.

Within the school, Design Technology is a well-established and successful department with excellent results. Recent highlights include:-

- 72% Grade 5 or higher in GCSE DT in 2022, with 24% achieving at least a Grade 7.
- 60% A*-B grades for A Level Textiles in 2022. 100% A*/A in A Level Product Design.
- In 2023, 73% of students achieved a Grade 4 or above at GCSE, 55% achieved 5+ and 36% secured a Grade 7 or above.
- At A level, 50% of students achieved A/A* in 2023