

## Overview of Year 8 Design Technology Curriculum

In Year 8, the focus of Design Technology is on helping pupils further understand the concepts of designing for themselves and others, manufacturing techniques, the world of design and the work of designers. In addition, the concepts of CAD (Computer-Aided-Design), Electronics and Packaging are explored. Pupils are taught how to form materials in different ways in order to make products and begin to make links with the world of industry and the manufacture of products through both Focused Practical Tasks (FPT) and Design and Make Assignments (DMA).

UNIT 1	Health and Safety
UNIT 2	DMA - Bottle Opener (Metals)
UNIT 3	FPT - The role of the designer (Product Analysis, Design Skills)
UNIT 4	FPT - Bookmark (CAD)
UNIT 5	DMA - Salad Servers (Plastics, Batch Production)
UNIT 6	FPT - Battery packaging (Graphics, Plastics)
UNIT 7	DMA - Fuse tester (Electronics, Plastics)
UNIT 8	FPT - Cutlery Design (Product Analysis, Design Skills)

## Homework

This is set once per week and is designed to support the work done during lessons. This will include written tasks, questions about the unit being taught, research topics and design tasks. In addition, an independent study project will be set in September. It will not replace all of the homework tasks for Autumn term but pupils will be expected to work on it in their own time. As this task will become part of the formal assessment for Year 8, they will be expected to work on it to the best of their ability. As it is school policy to set weekly homework, a detention will be issued if these are not handed in regularly.

## Examinations/Key assessments

Assessment takes place at the end of each unit of work. Pupils complete a progress file in which they record all levels, results and assessments. They comment on these and set targets for future work. Pupils are encouraged to assess their own work in order to help them become more aware of the progress they are making. Additionally, 6 key pieces of work are marked in detail at key points in the year. These highlight strengths and weaknesses and also suggest ways in which improvements can be made.

## How Parents can help

- Check that homework is recorded in planners and that any work is completed to a good standard.
- Ensure that basic equipment is brought to each lesson. A pen and pencil are the minimum requirements.
- Purchase a woodwork apron as soon as possible as this is necessary for all practical activities. Pupils are not allowed to participate in practical lessons without one.
- Encourage the use of the Internet or the library for research tasks and homework completion.
- Help with independent study research and presentation in order to ensure a good outcome and therefore a high grade on completion.