

Overview of Year 9 Design Technology Curriculum

In year 9, the focus of Design Technology is on helping pupils to develop the skills needed for the transition to KS4 and GCSE coursework. They undertake 4 DMA projects in which wood, metals and plastics are used in a more open ended way to create products. The link is made more strongly with key aspects of GCSE coursework, such as analysis and evaluation.

- UNIT 1 - Health and Safety
- UNIT 2 - DMA - Camera modelling and packaging (Graphics, ICT)
- UNIT 3 - DMA - Storage (wood)
- UNIT 4 - DMA - Clock (Wood, metals, plastics)
- UNIT 5 - DMA Candle holder (metals)

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 October. Pupils will be expected to work on it in their own time. As this task will become part of the formal assessment for Year 7, 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 woodworking 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.