

BLESSED GEORGE NAPIER SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

WELCOME TO THE

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The aim of the Design Technology Department at Blessed George Napier Roman Catholic School is to offer equal opportunities to all students. We achieve this by offering a broad balanced curriculum, which allows students of both sexes to achieve their maximum potential.

Programmes of study are translated into differentiated schemes of work to match the ability, attitude and developmental level of individual pupils.

We strive to stimulate a lasting interest in learning through problem solving and technological activities. We attempt to help students to develop their imaginations, sensitivity and creative responses to a wide range of aesthetic experiences.

Technology has an important part to play in helping all students to acquire the knowledge and skills that will be needed for them to take an active role in future developments.

The study of Technology fosters a wide range of desirable qualities, which we value. Pupils need to cooperate with one another and have a responsible attitude for health and safety. Students should develop lively, enquiring minds, the ability to question and discuss rationally and to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills, both on their own and in groups.

As a department we promote high standards of academic achievements through designing, making and evaluating results. We work together as an enthusiastic team and promote an environment where all students develop personal responsibility and self-motivation but consider the needs and achievements of others.

Through problem solving and technological activities the pupils should build up their skills and confidence to enable them to approach a man made world as active participants in future developments whilst still showing care and sensitivity for the environment.

As a department we aim:

- To give all pupils of both sexes the opportunity and confidence to tackle and solve problems which are related to the needs of individuals.
- To encourage the pupils to question the world about them as well as being able to constructively evaluate their own and other peoples work.
- To create a learning environment where the attributes of creativity, equality, cooperation and resourcefulness are developed and the pupils are interested and actively participate in the project work.
- To build where possible on the different backgrounds of the individuals in a group and where possible relate work to relevant cultural information.

- To enable the pupils to develop an understanding of how they can control products and systems and how the products can be developed further to improve them.
- To encourage and make pupils aware of the similarities and differences between school and the world of work.
- To encourage an open minded and investigative approach when tackling problems.
- To encourage clear communication techniques whether oral, written or in a graphical form.
- To encourage cooperation and the social skills needed when working in a team in a problem-solving activity. (The pupils should also be able to work as individuals when the need arises.)
- To build and establish good working practices and an understanding of technical concepts and systems and their safe application.
- To foster appropriate cross - curricular links where possible.
- To encourage the use of IT as a means of communication, learning and as designs tool
- To fully utilise the CAD / CAM facilities within the department.

Descriptions of courses offered

At Key Stage 3 The students are taught in mixed class groups, which are organised in a carousel system, in specialist D&T rooms covering the areas of Product Design, Food Technology and Textiles Technology.

At Key Stage 4 pupils can opt to extend their D&T capability towards a GCSE qualification in one of the AQA suite of D&T specifications.

At Key Stage 5 pupils join the Associated Sixth Form and can continue their studies by taking a Design and Technology A Level.

Year 7

Pupils complete 4 modules consisting of:

- Food Technology
- Textiles Technology
- Product Design (Resistant Materials)
- Product Design (CAD CAM / Graphic Products)

Year 8

Pupils complete 4 modules consisting of:

- Food Technology
- Textile Technology
- Product Design (Resistant Materials)
- Product Design (CAD CAM / Graphic Products)

Year 9

Pupils complete 4 modules consisting of:

Food Technology

Textile Technology

Product Design (Resistant Materials)

Product Design (CAD CAM / Graphic Products)

Year 10

One AQA GCSE course is currently offered (but with two specialist material focus options):

Design and Technology GCSE (resistant materials specialist focus)

Design and Technology GCSE (Textiles specialist focus)

In addition to Edexcel BTEC Construction (level 2 Award)

Year 11

Pupils complete the final year of their GCSE course. This involves the production of:

A major project- 40 hours of class contact time (50% of marks)

An external exam – 2 hours in duration (50% of marks)

Completion of Edexcel BTEC Construction (level 2 Award)

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