

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Frequently Asked Questions



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

What does D&T cover?

The D&T Department covers Design and Technology, Textile Design and Food and Nutrition. Design and Technology covers wood, metals, plastics, card and board. Textile Design covers fabrics, construction and decoration. Food and Nutrition looks at how to cook, how ingredients are used, where they come from, and the importance of nutrition.

Do students study all areas?

Currently, students work on a rotation in Year 7 and 8 across the three material areas, and includes Computing. They will complete short projects, around 9 weeks, in each. They then choose to study three in more detail in Year 9, which prepares them for GCSE, if they choose to continue the subject.

At GCSE, we currently offer Design and Technology, Textile Design and Food Preparation and Nutrition, and Textile Design at A Level.

Do boys do Textiles/girls do D&T?

Yes!

What facilities do you have?

We have specialist rooms for Food and Nutrition and Textile Design, and two workshops for Design and Technology

What equipment to students get to use?

We have a wide range of equipment in the department - in D&T students will be taught to use both hand tools and machine tools, including pillar drills, belt sanders and a brand new laser cutter. In Textiles students are taught to use a sewing machine, and a wide range of decorative techniques.

What are your class sizes?

At the moment, groups at Key Stage 3 are around 22. GCSE and A Level varies year on year, but currently 15 to 20 at GCSE and 10 for A Level

How often do students have a D&T lesson?

Key stage three currently study D&T for one lesson a week, Key stage 4 is three a week, and Key stage 5 is 5 a week

What projects to students do?

These vary year on year. Examples would be a mechanical toy, desk storage, a street food project, 3D bugs.