



KS3 TO GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY LEARNING JOURNEY

Designing today. Making tomorrow.



LEADING TO SUCCESS

You will develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed in your GCSE exams and beyond.



KEY SKILLS

- Designing
- Making
- Technical knowledge
- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Evaluation
- CAD & digital skills
- Communication
- Independent learning

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING



Our curriculum is rooted in Catholic Social Teaching:

- Care for Creation
- Dignity in Work
- The Common Good
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Solidarity



KEY SKILLS

- Drawing & CAD
- Design communication
- Annotation
- Making skills
- Practical techniques
- Evaluation



YOU ARE HERE

Your design journey starts here! Build your skills, explore materials and develop your creativity.

START

YEAR 11

GCSE AQA DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY – NEA & EXAM SUCCESS

- 1 NEA – Design and Make Project Design independently for a real client and context.
- 2 Investigate & Research In-depth research into users, products, materials, and manufacture to inform design decisions.
- 3 Design Development Generate, develop and model ideas through sketches, CAD, prototypes and testing.
- 4 Making & Manufacturing Select and use materials, tools, equipment and processes to manufacture high quality outcomes.
- 5 Analyse & Evaluate Test, evaluate and improve your design and final outcome. Consider fitness for purpose and user needs.
- 6 Written Exam Preparation (Paper 1) Core technical principles, designing & making principles and wider issues in design and technology.



YOU WILL ACHIEVE

AQA GCSE Design and Technology enables you to become a creative, resilient and independent designer and maker, equipped with skills for further study and future careers.

YEAR 10

GCSE AQA DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY – BUILDING CONFIDENCE

- 1 NEA – Project Launch Understand the NEA brief, analyse the client and unpick the needs and wants.
- 2 In-Depth Research Investigate existing products, materials, processes, ergonomics and environmental impact.
- 3 Design Development Develop ideas using annotation, modelling, CAD and iterative refinement.
- 4 Materials & Manufacture Select and combine materials. Use appropriate tools, equipment and processes safely and accurately.
- 5 Prototyping & Testing Create prototypes, test against the specification and make improvements.
- 6 Mock Exam Preparation Apply knowledge to exam-style questions and develop technical understanding for Paper 1.



YOU WILL DEVELOP

Independence, critical thinking and the ability to make informed, sustainable design decisions while preparing for your GCSE assessment.

YEAR 9

DESIGNING CONSIDERING MATERIALS

- 1 Sustainability & LCA Understand the environmental impact of products through the product life cycle.
- 2 Timbers, Polymers, Papers & Boards Explore properties, sources, working characteristics and suitability.
- 3 Materials Technology Investigate materials, their manufacture and how they are processed.
- 4 Electronics & Systems Learn about circuits, components and how products work.
- 5 CAD/CAM & Production Use CAD to communicate ideas and CAM to support manufacture.
- 6 Inclusive & Ethical Design Design for all users, considering accessibility, ergonomics and social responsibility.
- 7 GCSE Style Design Task Research, generate, develop and communicate ideas for a given client and context.



YOU WILL EXPLORE

Real-world issues, future technologies and how designers consider people, planet and responsibility in every decision.

YEAR 8

COMMUNICATING DESIGN

- 1 Technical Drawing (2D & 3D) Oblique, Isometric, Orthographic and Perspective drawing.
- 2 CAD Skills Use Computer Aided Design to model and communicate ideas.
- 3 Dimensions & Conventions Use accurate dimensions, line types and layouts.
- 4 Rendering & Presentation Develop shading, rendering and presentation techniques.
- 5 Textiles Project – Recycled Cushion Design for a client, write a specification and generate annotated ideas.
- 6 Making Skills – Textiles Use appliqué and construction techniques to manufacture a quality outcome.
- 7 Evaluating & Improving Test ideas and evaluate against the specification.



YOU WILL DEVELOP

Professional drawing techniques, confident presentation skills and practical making skills to communicate your ideas clearly.

YEAR 7

WORKING WITH MATERIALS

- 1 Textiles – Fibres & Fabrics Natural & synthetic fibres, textile construction, sustainability in fashion.
- 2 Weaving Project Explore colour, pattern, texture and weaving techniques.
- 3 Timbers – Woods & Boards Hardwood, softwood, manufactured boards and sustainable forestry.
- 4 Workshop Skills Measuring, cutting, shaping, joining, finishing safely.
- 5 Polymers Project Properties of polymers and basic forming techniques.
- 6 CAD Introduction Introduction to CAD and how it supports design and manufacture.
- 7 Evaluating & Reflecting Reflect on your work and identify improvements.



YOU WILL LEARN

The foundations of designing and making through practical projects and theory that build confidence and curiosity.



OUR MISSION

To inspire confident, creative and independent learners who use design and technology to improve lives and make a positive impact on the world.



Be Creative



Be Resilient



Be Respectful



Be Responsible



Be Proud



DESIGN TODAY
SHAPE TOMORROW