

Design Technology

'Good designers must always be one step ahead of the times. They should question everything and push the boundaries of technology'

What does progress look like in Design Technology?

- Pupils will focus on the four key skills of the 'design process': investigation, design, manufacture and evaluate. At SGCHS pupils will experience working with a range of tools and machines, including CAM/CAM, in order to manipulate a wide variety of materials and components.
- Pupils will progress from constructing simple projects based on their own designs, through to developing and manufacturing high-level innovative outcomes that are sustainable and commercially viable.
- At GCSE level, pupils will focus on one of the following areas; fashion, interiors and furnishings, advertising and promotion, consumer electronics, leisure or mechanical systems. They will produce a challenging final practical outcome which will be supported by a high quality design portfolio.
- Pupils will also develop their knowledge and understanding of the history of design, as well as the social, moral and economic issues of designing for a specific target market.

How will my child be assessed in Design Technology?

- Pupil progress will be measured against our 'Progression Map' which can be found in the pupils' design booklets.
- Pupils will be able to use the information on the 'Progress Map' along with written feedback in their design folders to understand how to make the next steps in their learning.
- Pupils work will be formally assessed at the end of each project, helping them to see where they are up to in their learning and allowing them to focus on, and develop, the skills they will need to reach their potential at GCSE level.

What can I do to help my child make progress in Design Technology?

- Help your child to take an interest in current design and design movements. This can include visits to Art and Design exhibitions, such as the Tate gallery in Liverpool, and retail outlets, such as Ikea on the Gemini retail park.
- Encourage your child to get involved with practical tasks at home, such as DIY or measuring out ingredients for a recipe.
- Encourage your child to investigate designs in your home and community. Ask them to consider why products are designed the way they are and why specific materials have been chosen.
- Encourage your child to discuss the projects they are working on in school and take time to look through their design booklets whenever possible.