



The Design Technology Department at Ripon Grammar School

The Design Technology department is well established with committed and enthusiastic staff teaching all age ranges from Year 7 to the Upper Sixth (Y13). We deliver OCR 'Food and Nutrition' at KS3/4, AQA 'Design Technology' at KS3/4 and AQA 'Product Design' at KS5.

The department includes four Design Technology teachers and a single, full time technician. There are currently five specialist rooms, including a materials workshop with general manufacture resources, electronics lab, food room, 2 x multi-purpose rooms with computer suite, micro-router, laser cutter and general manufacture facilities in each. Generally, DT staff have designated areas of expertise, however, you may be expected to deliver the whole range of DT subjects at KS3 and contribute significantly to sixth form provision. At KS4, contact time will be dictated by the student options which are yet to be established.

Design Technology is a key part of the core curriculum and is studied by all students in KS3, covering all aspect of the National Curriculum. At KS3 we teach on a carousel system covering Food Technology and Design Technology. At KS4 we currently teach AQA Design Technology to five classes and OCR Food & Nutrition to 5 classes. At KS5 we offer Product Design 'A' level from AQA and currently have one class in both yr 12 and 13.

The department looks to provide students with a modern experience of the subject at all Key Stages. We want to prepare our students for life in an ever-changing technological world where they are happy to embrace changes and are equipped to handle modern technologies. We currently provide one afternoon a week to our partner KS2 schools on a carousel system. They often come into the school to use our specialist equipment as preparation for their transition from KS2 to KS3.

Results across all subjects within the Department are above national averages. The department has had success in a variety of competitions; the 'Greenpower' electric car competition, Arkwright Scholarship, Engineering Education Scheme, Rotary Technology tournament, F1 in School and others. The department recognises the benefit of students seeing the wider context via trips which have included the Design Museum, Bettys Cookery School, Coca Cola bottling plant, London tours, ECON, Teesside, Loughborough & Brunel Universities etc.

Some student quotes regarding the department include:

"I like the atmosphere of DT, it is a very independent and varied subject."

"I have found Design Technology constantly engaging due to the wide range of materials, techniques and products used and made, throughout the school"

"My favourite part of DT is the relaxed atmosphere and the encouragement of independent learning"

“I like how you can tailor a project to show your own skills”

“Knowledgeable and fun teachers make the DT experience very enjoyable”

Mr D M Rudland
Head of Design Technology

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