

8 April 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Change of course in Year 10 Design & Technology

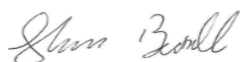
Following the departure of our GCSE Design & Technology Teacher, Mr Robertson, and after careful consideration we have decided that, based on the strengths of our Technology teachers and the opportunities that this qualification provides for our students, to move the current Year 10 cohort onto the GCSE 3D Design Specification. We feel this will be hugely beneficial to the pupils on the course, as the 3D Design specification is much broader in terms of the practical skills the students can explore, and removes the requirement for a written theory exam at the end of the course.

I can appreciate that there may be concerns about students embarking on a new course at this stage. However, I would like to reassure you that all the work that pupils have produced so far for GCSE DT will be submitted towards the new qualification to fulfil the requirements of the course as having produced supporting evidence alongside the project they will go on to construct this term. This qualification allows the students not only to continue to engage in woodwork if they prefer but they now also have a much wider choice of materials from which to make and create from. Another key benefit is that the course is composed of one coursework unit that will be completed by the end of December in Year 11 and one externally set assignment which follows the same format as the coursework unit which will be produced between January and May of Year 11. This format of the course allows the students more time planning, testing and making, which is what the pupils on this course generally enjoy most and excel in, and removes the requirement for large amounts of theory knowledge on different types of materials, their impact on the environment and the technologies used to produce them.

Your child has been fully informed about what the course now involves in this week's lessons. They have also been issued with an information leaflet about the details of the course so you can discuss the exciting opportunities that this course offers for your child at home.

Please contact me at the school if you have any queries. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr G Birrell
Vice Principal

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A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.