The Charles Dickens School – Design Technology

Facilities

The Department of Design and Technology is comprised of two workshops/teaching rooms for Product Design/Resistant Materials and Graphics, a further teaching room equipped for Textiles and Food Technology Room. In addition to these, there is a technician's preparation room/storage area, for the two workshops and a preparation/storage room for Food Technology. All teaching areas have access to laptops; and four computers in the Textiles room. An A3 colour printer and photocopier is located within the Graphics teaching room for department use. Product Design equipment includes a laser cutter, 3D printer, sublimation printing system, CNC Router and a CAM vinyl cutter/plotter. Food Technology equipment includes nine ovens and a low-level practical area. The department employs a full time technician who supports Product Design/Textiles and a part time Food Technician.

Key Stage 3

KS3 (Yrs 7 & 8) Design and Technology is delivered through two 60 minute lessons per fortnight, and homework is set in 1 of those lessons. Within the department, there are currently 3 rotations every 10 weeks, consisting of Food Technology, Design Technology and Textiles. We follow the Design and Technology national curriculum and the learning is supported by a wide range of practical activities, ICT, interactive and printed resources, ensuring that a variety of activities is offered to suit every type of learner. Work set is largely project based using problem solving design and making tasks. By the end of KS3 we expect the majority of our students to achieve their minimum target grade. Students are rewarded through the awarding of CDS points, in line with whole School policy at KS3.

Key Stage 4

We are proud to offer Hospitality and Catering, Design Technology. KS4 is five 60 minute lessons per fortnight. The EDUQAS Hospitality and Catering course is assessed across 2 units a Practical exam and theory paper. The hospitality and catering industry and hospitality and catering in action. These are both internally and externally assessed. Students are given learning outcomes to complete for each assessed unit. We currently follow the AQA examination board for Design Technology. The two assessment areas are a NEA task (50%) involving a major project with a practical design solution and design folio as the coursework focus, with a written examination (50 %) at the end of Key stage 4. The focus includes a deeper knowledge and understanding of materials and industrial processes.