

A Level Fashion and Textiles



Why this subject?

Textiles is a very creative subject and allows students who study it to access higher level thinking skills during creative activities, for example researching, problem solving, analysing and time management. Students at A Level have the opportunity to explore a range of areas, such as fashion, textiles, costume design, domestic textiles, installed textiles and digital textiles. They have the opportunity to learn a variety of decorative techniques, such as printing, weaving, surface design and embroidery. Along with learning about a variety of construction techniques, such as subtraction pattern cutting, drafting your own patterns and draping.

Course Outline

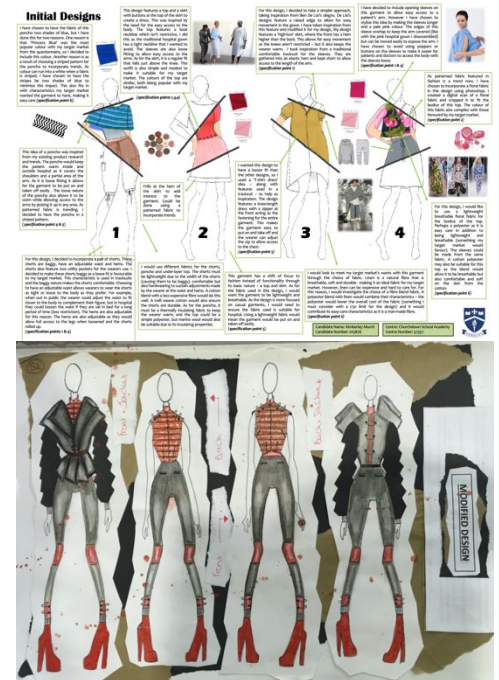
Year 12

Practical Workshops - Students will explore a range of different techniques and processes through a variety of workshops. The workshops are designed to develop student knowledge beyond that of the GCSE, focusing on both practical and design techniques, including how to draft their own pattern pieces and how to drape clothes using the mannequin. Students also take part in the national design competition Wool4Schools. In the second half of year 12, students develop their own theme for a small design and make task. Students receive theory lessons once a week throughout the year to ensure that the majority of the knowledge is taught in the first year.

Year 13

Non-examined assessment – The majority of the year students focus on developing a specific brief that meets the needs of a user, client or market. Students will produce a final prototype based on the design brief they have developed, along with a written or digital design portfolio.

Examinations – The remainder of the year focuses on preparing students ready for their examinations. Paper 1 is a written exam which is 2.5 hours. It is designed to test students on their understanding of Technical principles and is equates to 30% of the final A level grade. Paper 2 is a written paper with is 1.5 hours. It is designed to test students on their understanding of Designing and making principles, it equates to 20% of the final A Level grade.



Key Information

Exam Board	AQA
Qualification Type	A Level
Entry Requirements	Applied A Level Pathway. Level 6 in Design technology GCSE.
Head of Department	Mr Smith

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Assessment Outline

This is a linear qualification and is designed to be taken over two years. The exams and non-exam assessment will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

AO1: Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities to address needs and wants.

AO2: Design and make prototypes that are fit for purpose.

AO3: Analyse and evaluate:

- design decisions and outcomes, including for prototypes made by themselves and others
- wider issues in design and technology.

AO4: Demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of:

- technical principles
- designing and making principles.

A Level examination papers 50%:

Paper 1 is based on technical principles and is worth 120 marks

Paper 2 is based on Design and making principles and is worth 80 marks

A level Non-exam assessment 50%:

Students will be required to undertake a substantial design and make task and produce a final prototype based on a context and design brief developed by the student.



Careers and next steps

Design thinking, problem solving and innovation are highly prized attributes in many different industries. There are many varied careers paths after the study of Fashion and Textiles A Level, including Fashion design, apparel design, textiles design, constructed textiles or fashion journalism to mention only a few.

You could go onto either University or an Apprenticeship: This is a well-accepted and very versatile A Level qualification. It is also a course that is looked upon very favourably by lots of universities, and not just for design degrees.

Fashion and Textile students leaving in last two years have gone studied a wide range of subjects at university. Students have gone on to study fashion design at university level.

