Textiles at KS3

Textiles is taught as part of the Design and Technology rotation. In years 7, 8, and 9, pupils have one term in Textiles, approximately 24, one-hour lessons.

**Year 7**

In year 7, pupils will study what natural and synthetic fibres are and their origins. They will learn how fabrics are constructed and make examples of woven, knitted and non-woven fabrics. They will understand the different tools and equipment that are used in the Textiles environment and be able to identify potential hazards and preventable measures.

Pupils will learn about biomimicry and apply this to their design work. They will develop an in depth understanding of the design process and learn how to properly annotate their work. They will then be introduced to Computer Aided Design (CAD) and create an animal themed doorstop, learning different hand embroidery stitches to decorate their product and using the sewing machine to construct their product.

Numeracy is reinforced when measuring and evaluation techniques are taught to enhance pupil’s Textiles vocabulary.

**Year 8**

In Year 8, pupils complete 2 projects creating an earphone case and a cushion cover. When making the earphone case, pupils consider how technology can be incorporated into Textiles to enhance lives. They continue to develop their knowledge of CAD/CAM from Year 7 and learn to use 2D Design more thoroughly to create repeat designs and are introduced to the sublimation printer and heat press to transfer their design work to fabric.

Pupils will continue to develop their knowledge of the sewing machine for both projects, learning to insert zips and create hems. When making the cushion cover, pupils research the Mexican ‘Day of the Dead’ and use this to inspire creative design work. They experiment with a range of decorative techniques including appliqué, tie dye, batik, block printing and transfer printing to bring their ideas to life.

Evaluation techniques are further developed.

**Year 9**

In year 9, pupils investigate sustainability in the Textiles industry and why it is important to the future, learning about the 6R’s and how to up-cycle products to improve them.

Pupils then recap what a context, design brief and specification are and are introduced to their project – creating a graffiti art inspired shopper or drawstring bag. Pupils look at the importance of layering techniques to create a depth of texture in their design work and look at graffiti typography to design their own tags. Designing is encouraged at this stage in KS3 to be detailed, creative and thorough in preparation for GCSE.

During the project they will be introduced to a range of new decorative techniques including spray painting, stencilling and screen-printing. They will also learn construction techniques such as creating an overlocked seam and a casing or strap.

The use of keywords will be further incorporated to aid literacy skills and pupils will be expected to use specialist terminology in all of their annotations.