



St Mary Redcliffe
and Temple School

Fashion and Textiles



Fashion and Textiles

Exam board: AQA

Specification no.: 7562

This is a two year linear A level course - The AS content forms first half of the A level content and can be assessed at the end of Year 12 to provide an AS Level qualification if the student is dropping the subject and believes they can get a strong grade. Otherwise the two years of content are assessed at the end of Year 13 to give the A level grade.

A level

| Content Overview | Assessment Overview | % |
|--|---|--|
| <p>This paper is set out through four sets of questions that predominantly cover technical principles. Students will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• analyse existing products• demonstrate applied mathematical skills• demonstrate their technical knowledge of materials, product functionality, manufacturing processes and techniques• demonstrate their understanding of wider social, moral and environmental issues that impact on the design and manufacturing industries. | <p>Technical Principles</p> <p>120 marks 2 hour 30 minutes</p> | <p>30% of total A level</p> |
| <p>This component has a series of longer answer questions that require students to demonstrate their problem solving and critical evaluation skills. Students will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• apply their knowledge, understanding and skills of designing and manufacturing prototypes and products• demonstrate their higher thinking skills to solve problems and evaluate situations and suitability of design solutions. | <p>Designing & Making Principles</p> <p>80 marks 1 hour 30 minutes Written paper</p> | <p>20% of total A level</p> |
| <p>The NEA requires students to undertake a substantial design, make and evaluate project centred on the iterative processes of explore, create and evaluate. Students identify a design opportunity or problem from a context of their own choice, and create a portfolio of evidence in real time through the project to demonstrate their competence.</p> | <p>NEA</p> <p>100 marks Approx. 65 hours Non-exam assessment</p> | <p>50% of total A level</p> |

Course Delivery:

A level Fashion and Textiles is taught through a mixture of theory and practical work with a focus on iterative designing. Some course elements involve experimenting with equipment, software and materials and others will open up discussion-based activities. The course is set up so that you will end up with a significant product by the end of each year of study. The course is designed to encourage you to be as creative as possible, so it is important that you possess a lot of self-motivation. In the early stages of the course you will be taught key design and manufacturing skills. You will have access to a lot of materials and industrial links to facilitate the creation of your bright ideas.

You will spend most of your lesson time in the textile workshop. There is a designated A Level space that you can access throughout the day. Homework tasks will involve research and designing as well as extracting information to compile reports on materials and processes. Some of the teaching will come in the form of educational visits and guest speakers.

Course Content:

This course is aimed at launching you into the world of design. During the two year course you will focus on fashion and textiles products and accessories in a range of applications; their analysis in respect of materials, process, trends and use in relation to industrial and commercial practices. You will learn about wider design principles and the effect of design on users and the world we live in. You will learn key skills that can be applied in industry such as design, construction, presentation, and marketing.

The Yr12 program is designed to give you a foundation in key designing and making skills. You will complete a number of projects, which explore a wide range of design issues in order to develop your theoretical understanding.

The final year provides the platform for you to really show what you can do through a final major project. The brief for this extended project will be set by you to give you the opportunity to meet a need or solve a problem in a creative way. The project will involve you making links with a 'real client' and working closely with them throughout the design process to realise and fulfil their requirements. There are two exams in the final year that draw on your experience throughout the whole course.

Entry requirements:

Textiles at GCSE is not necessary if there is evidence of relevant skills and experience in the subject area elsewhere.

Skills & personal qualities required / developed by course:

This course is suited to the self-motivated, enthusiastic student who enjoys solving problems. We will give you confidence in taking your ideas and making them into a reality, having an eye for detail and quality, and conversing with the commercial world of designing.

Visits / resources:

The course may involve visits to see exhibitions representing good design.

There are a wide range of resources both in the library and the faculty. Students will be encouraged to make active use of the CAD/ CAM facilities within the department.

Factory visit to see industrial manufacture.

Recommended reading / websites:

Textiles at the Cutting Edge Lesley Creswell

Technology of Textile Properties MA Taylor

V and A web site (www.vam.ac.uk)

Frequently asked questions:

In this section we try to summarise those questions we always get asked at open evenings.

What are the class sizes like?

Usually between 15 & 20 students.

Who will teach me?

You will always have two teachers in yr 12 and 13 but not always the same pair. We don't want students to become too influenced by one teachers' style of creativity. We all come from different backgrounds of fashion so we have a lot to offer!

How many lessons do I have a fortnight?

You will have 10 lessons a fortnight. Nine of these are taught to you directly in a classroom whilst your 10th lesson is one not directed by a member of staff, but you will have a room available to complete independent study. This could be from a design-based project to maths skills.

How much coursework is there?

Yr 12 is based on 3 mini projects with strict deadlines to prepare you for yr 13. You will have a theory lesson once a week to cover the content of the written exams.

Yr 13 is coursework based and this is 50% of your final mark. You will have a theory lesson once a week to cover the content of the written exams. Being proactive is an essential skill.

What if I get behind on my coursework?

Starting an A Level course with so much independence is difficult for some. We will help you with your organisation and how to meet deadlines to prevent this from happening.

Where are the textiles rooms?

All design & technology subjects are taught in the main school building. We have amazing facilities and huge design workshops. The department is extremely well equipped with just about everything you could need. You will also have access to the product design equipment such as the laser cutter and 3D printers. We want you to experiment and be creative.

Can I study fashion & textiles at university?

Yes, and so much more. Fashion & textiles opens many university courses, print design, marketing, retail management, knit design, menswear, sportswear, lingerie, millinery, footwear, bags & accessories, jewellery, fashion communication, trend forecasting, journalism – the list is endless.

Can I get a job with this A Level?

Yes, Fashion & textiles are diverse global industries. In the UK alone, the fashion sector accounts for almost 890,000 jobs with millions more worldwide.



For further information: Contact Mrs Jordan, Design & Technology.
Jordans@smrt.bristol.sch.uk

Telephone: 0117 353 2073

Email: 6thform@smrt.bristol.sch.uk

www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk

