

A LEVEL

Exam board AQA

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: FASHION & TEXTILES

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A grade 5 or above in GCSE DT or art. If you have not previously studied one of these subjects at GCSE, grade 5 or above in GCSE English language will be required. The ability to confidently use a sewing machine would also be an advantage, along with a basic knowledge of garment construction.

COURSE CONTENT

The specification is modern and relevant, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. This qualification places great emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

It will cover the major historical design styles and movements including punk, pop art, art nouveau and minimalism. Alongside this, students will analyse socio-economic influences on fashion such as social media, the role of women in society, music, World War Two, and the rise of street culture.

Students will learn how to create their own designs, and work with a variety of textiles and new design technologies such as wearable technology. They will also study the commercial side of fashion, including branding and marketing.

Students will take an in depth look at the work of influential designers such as Chanel, Dior, Mary Quant, Yves Saint Laurent, Pierre Cardin, Vivienne Westwood, Gaultier and McQueen.

EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

Will consist of 2 written papers.

Paper 1: technical principles. 2½ hours, 30% of the A-Level.

Questions consist of a mixture of short answer and extended responses.

Paper 2: design and making principles. 1½ hours, 20% of the A-Level.

Section A: product analysis.

Section B: commercial manufacture.

NEA: substantial design and make project. 50% of the A-Level.

Supporting design portfolio and final prototype.

SKILLS, LINKS AND PROGRESSION

The UK's thriving fashion industry makes a huge contribution to the economy. It employs hundreds of thousands of people and is one of our most sought after exports. The range of careers within the industry is vast and varied.

The NEA coursework undertaken, and the work produced, will provide evidence of all the key skills, creativity alongside the student's ability to problem solve, that is required to project manage. This often forms the basis of discussion at interview.

CONTACT

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