



Woodkirk Academy

Design Technology

How we identify UA in Design Technology

A secondary school student is considered to be Upper Ability (**UA**) if the average level he/she achieved in his/her Key Stage 2 English and Mathematics SATs is Level 5 or above. Year 7 students who completed the new Key Stage 2 exams in 2016 have been identified using an equivalent measure.



How we Identify MAA in Design Technology

If your son/daughter has been identified as being More Academically Able (**MAA**) within Design and Technology then the teacher has identified that your son/daughter has displayed a large proportion of the characteristics in each of the main areas within Design and Technology.

Skills

Design and Development Work

- Is inventive and original in their design thinking ideas.
- Often thinks out of the box and solves design problems ingeniously.
- Can quickly identify flaws in design and suggest alternative solutions.
- Excellent quality of design skills using a variety of media.
- Can competently use CAD with a high level of expertise.

Manufacture of a product

- Skilfully and confidently uses a wide range of equipment and machinery within the classroom with a high level of accuracy.
- Easily grasps the underlying principals of problem solving within the design and manufacture of an outcome.
- Show perfectionism within the manufacture of all elements of their product.
- Has the skills to work on their own with high levels of safety awareness.

Writing Skills

- Use different sentence types with ease and accuracy to evaluate and describe class work.
- Confidently and imaginatively use a wide range of sensory descriptive words and vocabulary.
- Demonstrates a full range of punctuation when annotating and evaluating work.
- Structure whole text with overall cohesion.
- To accurately spell the correct design and technology terminology.

Strategies for Success

- VARK – variety of learning styles to suit students. These include practical tasks, independent learning tasks, written tasks, research tasks
- Mini experts and student leaders used.
- Higher order questioning, giving students access to exam extended questions. Using higher level command words.
- Encourage students to use higher order thinking skills as they have to problem solve. The answers are not just given to them.
- Expert grouping.
- Extension tasks that encourage greater depth of understanding or reflection.
- Independent researching and problem solving tasks.
- Task / example invention.
- Increase pace of learning/ teaching for more able students.
- Classroom culture is developed of high expectations and aspirations.
- More able students can develop their practical outcomes further with intricate design details.
- Access to high quality materials and resources that encourage complex construction and design development.
- Encourage extra-curricular Design and Technology activities in and out of school.

Challenges for UA in Design Technology and how to overcome these

Challenge	Overcome
Writing sufficient details in extended writing pieces to enable student to access higher mark band.	See exemplar material of what a 9/A looks like.
Learning and revising lots of content for the examination.	Use the recommended revision guide, creating useful revision aid such as mind maps and flashcards and attending after school revision sessions.
Being organised and not missing practical lessons.	Use of planner to accurately record ingredients needed for the following week, asking teachers if there is the option to stay behind to catch up.
Not giving up when faced with coursework or assessment tasks and deadlines.	Make use of after school time and inform your teacher if you are struggling.

How can Parents help?

Supporting your son/daughter to stay behind to complete practical work in any area of Design Technology.

Encourage them to make and cook at home! Even helping out at home will help develop practical skills and contribute to developing independence and initiative.

We provide all Year 11 students with an AQA GCSE workbook. You can purchase the purple CGP Revision guide to go along with it.

Watch related TV programmes such as Master chef, The Great British Bake Off, Grand Designs, The Great Interior Design Challenge, fashion shows etc.

Please use the following websites to help support your son/daughter:

<http://www.technologystudent.com/> This website contains numerous information sheets and exercises to enhance the study, understanding and teaching of DESIGN and TECHNOLOGY.

www.bbc.co.uk/education (GCSE Bitesize revision activities and notes).

www.youtube.com (lots of revision videos)

<http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/> lots of reliable recipes for all abilities to try and practice recipes.