

Fashion and Textiles



Information for
students and parents

FASHION AND TEXTILES

It is widely recognised that 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 employment opportunities are endless - both in the UK and worldwide - for young people with a solid understanding of this vibrant industry.

Students will explore the creative, commercial and technical aspects of fashion, studying major historical design styles and movements such as Art Nouveau, Pop Art and Punk as well as influential fashion designers including Chanel, Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen.

In addition, you will study socio-economic influences: street culture, music and media, world events, the rise of youth culture and anti-authoritarian attitude, music, film, royalty and celebrities as well as the role of women in society, design theory and other associated topics.

Students will develop skills in a range of communication and presentation techniques for conveying design proposals; this could include the use of mixed media, drawing, fashion photography and video.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

This creative course gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a variety of careers.

Fashion and Textiles A-Level is fully recognised by University Admissions Officers.

Degree courses include: Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Fashion Buying and Merchandising, International Fashion Promotion, Business Management and Marketing amongst many others.



ASSESSMENT

Exam Board: AQA

How is it assessed?

A-level

- 50% exam (Maths and Science contribute 15%)
- 50% non-examined assessment (NEA). NEA consists of a single design and make activity. Students are free to choose their design.

COURSE CONTENT

The course content will include:

- Fashion cycles
- Design methods and processes
- Design theory
- Responsible design
- Project management
- Enterprise and marketing in the development of products
- The requirements of product design
- Development and manufacture
- Design illustration and communication
- Digital design and manufacture
- Critical analysis and evaluation
- Industrial and commerce practice
- How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers
- Additional specialist knowledge
- The characteristics and working properties of materials
- Methods of joining fabrics and construction methods
- The use of pattern drafting and toiles
- The application of smart materials, e-textiles and technical textiles

LINKS WITH OTHER SUBJECTS

Fashion and Design uses Mathematics and Science (15%) to support decisions made in the processes of designing and completing your non examined assessment. Other complimentary subjects at A-level could include Drama, Economics, History and Psychology.

A significant part of the course is learning how to create and make your own designs and to use a variety of new textiles and design technologies. Alongside the creative elements of the course you will study the commercial side of fashion, including branding and marketing.

Visits and trips will play an important part of your learning; anticipate visiting important fashion destinations during the course!

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal entry requirements for A-level Fashion and Textiles but an interest in fashion, design, media, creativity and style is essential.



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