



Key Stage 3 Materials: Technology

Year 7

In Year 7 students learn about the whole design and make process, from being given an initial brief to having to evaluate their final product. To start to give our younger students a flavour of the types of careers available to them we cover three different elements in this year within Materials Technology. They are Graphics, Design & Manufacture and Electrical Products. We start off at the bottom focussing on our student's presentation and drawing skills, we look at different ways of designing products and then start to proceed in workshop skills firstly looking at health and safety. Being one of the most dangerous subjects in a secondary school environment it is important that our learners understand their role and responsibilities when using manual tools, equipment and machinery. Once students are competent in this area they are then set manufacturing tasks to complete and all products can be taken home when final assessment has taken place. Electronics is a forever changing industry and this is also something we focus on and students will become familiar with electronic components and build their own functional circuits.

Year 8

Students in Year 8 spend half an academic year putting their prior skills into practice. They are set a design and make activity based upon a real life context. Students are encouraged to use their creativity and gain their inspiration from famous designers or design movements to aid them in the design process. More complex manufacturing processes are investigated and used so the students can ensure what they manufacture is of shop quality. We like to encourage the students also through competition and at the end of a project we carry out a Dragon Den's style approach to allow each student to present their product to a panel of judges to aid with confidence building and skills for life.

