

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2023

Re: GCSE Design and Technology

We're pleased to welcome your son/daughter to Year 9 in the Design and Technology department at The Castle School and would like to tell you a little about the courses and our expectations.

This year students will be taught D&T and Food on a rotation – they will cover three D&T areas (Product Design, Resistant Materials and STEM). In Product Design, students will learn about the history of the Swatch watch, 3D printing and how to generate creative designs for a client. They will use this knowledge to design a prototype watch and packaging; in Resistant Materials, students design and make a pendant and display stand; in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) students design, model and make a mobile phone stand using CAD and CAM, all skills which they could go on to use for their GCSEs in Year 10 and 11!

Over the last few years the cost of materials for Design and Technology has increased hugely and we request a *contribution towards* (not the full cost of) the materials to be bought-in to enable students to complete their practical work. For Year 9 the sum of this is **£6.00**.

It is worth mentioning that students have always contributed towards project materials but this used to be in dribs and drabs throughout the year and we hope this makes it clearer and easier for everyone!

Please complete and return the slip below to your son/daughter's D&T class teacher by Friday 29 September so we can arrange this year's materials. Please pay either via the school's online payment system, by cash/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone with the Finance Department).

With regard to department expectations, these are few and simple – we expect all students to arrive on time and ready to learn. Homework is set only when required by the project (often involving some aspect of design or research where the work is needed for the next lesson) and must be brought in on time so students do not fall behind in lessons; a missed homework will result in a detention where the work can be caught up. There are clear school guidelines on behaviour and the department will follow these as required.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Batchelor
Head of D&T Department

FAO: Mr Batchelor/ Mrs Hobson/ Mrs Fishlock, Design and Technology Department (Year 9 D&T materials)

Student's Name:

Please provide my son/ daughter with a Design and Technology materials, I have paid **£6.00** by:

- Scopay - the school's online payment system
- Cash (take to Finance Office)
- Cheque (made payable to The Castle School and take to Finance Office)