

Thomas Hardy Sixth Form

Newsletter 4— Design Special

Dear Student

We have pleasure in publishing our next newsletter specialising in Design Technology. We hope that you find the information helpful and if you like what you see remember to make an [application!](#)

Please email sixthformteam@thomas-hardye.net if you require further information about any of the courses listed below.

The Sixth Form Team

Food Science and Nutrition

As there is no longer a Food Technology A Level, do all universities/UCAS accept the WJEC Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition as an equivalent?

Yes, most of them will, but you need to contact the university of your choice to confirm. Some of the Russell group universities such as Bristol, Exeter or Southampton may not however.

Graphics

Is there a Graphics A Level?

No, there isn't an A Level in Graphics, however, the A Level in Product Design is the obvious route for students wanting to continue their education in this area. Product Design is very similar to your Graphics GCSE, although, this subject will open up other manufacturing options and different materials for you to use. As always, A Levels cover topics in much more depth, but rest assured a good grade in your Graphics GCSE will equip you well for this subject. Doing well in Graphics will also open the door to other coursework subjects such as Textiles, Art and Photography.

Photography

Do I need my own camera to take A Level photography?

No, you don't need your own camera but it is an advantage if you do, particularly in year 13. We use 2 different cameras a Digital SLR and a film SLR camera. We have a selection of both cameras that students can loan out to complete weekly shoots, although the same ones may not be available each week. The advantages of having your own camera are that you get to know the setting and how to use that model confidently and you can use it at any time.

Art and Design

Is there a written exam in art?

No - for the coursework unit which is 60% of the final mark, students have to write about their personal project and submit this in as an essay format that accompanies their art work. The essay is 1000-3000 words and must include images of their art work and the work of other artists. The personal project commences at the end of year 12 and is completed at the end of February. To help with this essay we take the students on several visits to see the work of other artists.

Product Design

What skills will I learn whilst studying Product Design?

Studying Product Design will allow you to develop the following skills:

Problem solving – you will learn to recognise problems and identify a range of possible solutions;

Organisation – you will learn to plan a schedule of work, prioritise what needs to be done and by when;

Communication – you will learn to listen to a client's needs; explain your ideas to other people and communicate designs using different media to help others understand your ideas.

Creativity – use your imagination to come up with new and innovative ideas.

Electronics

What does the course involve?

By studying Electronics you will learn to design and build electronic circuits to solve complex analogue and digital design problems. We learn a lot of theory (most of it with significant maths content) but we also have practical tasks and 20% coursework. Digital electronics features strongly in this course and you will design, build and program a micro-controller circuit using assembly language. Most students continue to further study or employment in electronics, computer science or another branch of engineering. An interest in computer programming is desirable but no previous experience is required.

For all enquiries please email the [Sixth Form Team](mailto:sixthformteam@thomas-hardye.net) (sixthformteam@thomas-hardye.net)

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To make an application register [here](#)

Fashion and Textiles

Can I study Fashion and Textiles even if I do not want a career in the subject?

Yes, the course provides students with a range of skills that are transferable for further study, apprenticeship and the workplace helping to compliment other academic subjects. It equips students with skills in organisation, problem solving, analytical observations, project management and communication. The course can also be an ideal starting point for students wishing to pursue further study in the area of fashion or textiles.

Health & Social Care – Cambridge Technical

Do I need to also study science?

You need to have a good GCSE result to be able to do well in the anatomy and physiology unit. If you intend to go on to study any medical careers, then you may also need a biology or applied science A level. Check with universities.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



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