

Art and Design: Textile Design

What will I learn?

The GCSE art and design textiles course is project based and you will have some choice in deciding on the kind of work you want to do. There are two components to this course: the portfolio, and the final exam.

The portfolio (60% of the final marks):

This is a collection of your best work. You will have to show that you can work in more than one area from: art textiles, fashion design and illustration, costume design, constructed textiles, printed and dyed textiles, surface pattern, stitched and/or embellished textiles, soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors, digital textiles, installed textiles. The coursework is split into 2 projects: 1 skills base, and 1 extended covering all assessment objectives, 1(research), 2 (develop), 3 (draw and annotate), 4 (final piece and evaluate).

The final exam (40% of the final marks):

This is a timed 10 hour session (broken down into smaller chunks of time).

You are given the final exam paper by the exam board around January, you then choose which of the seven topics most interests you.

Between January and the exam in April/May (depending on when the final exam sessions are set) you will research and prepare for the exam. In the 10 hour exam, you produce the final piece of work you have been working towards, again covering all assessment objectives 1-4.

What skills do I need?

- An enthusiasm for the subject.
- An enthusiasm for developing work creatively.
- An ability to produce work regularly in the lesson and for homework to meet the project requirements by the deadlines.

Textiles is a demanding course and, if you choose to study it you will be expected to work hard. Work takes time to produce: sometimes it may take you most of the weekend to complete a piece of homework. Only opt for it if you are committed.

Assessment

☑ Examination

- Component 2: Externally set assignment | 10 hours | 40%

☑ Non-examined assessment

- Component 1: Portfolio (skills based project and extended piece) | 60%

Could lead to:

A-level art or D&T textiles, and then onto foundation or BA/BSc courses. This could lead to a career in fashion, design, surface decoration, interior designer, garment technologist, buyer, to name just a few. It could also be a good skill for academic degrees after A-level, particularly regarding creative problem solving e.g. engineering, or the sciences. Universities and employers appreciate textiles as a valid qualification standard for most courses showing you have a wide range of desirable skills.