



The Art and D&T Departments aim to provide Quality First Teaching for all students. The deliberate strategies which attempt to target closing the gaps for Disadvantaged Learners are evident in the methods of feedback & access to cultural capital activities which students are provided with.

- One of the barriers to learning for Disadvantaged Learners can be a lack of self-belief and confidence in their ability to produce a strong body of work, whether this is portfolio based for the creative suite or coursework for Food and Nutrition. The Department aims to build positive relationships with students to find out their individual needs and barriers so as a department we can overcome these.
- In lessons staff will demonstrate their curriculum knowledge on a practical basis through high-quality demonstrations. Discussions with students will form an integral part of learning so they are able to take some ownership of the development of their work to meet their needs and ideas. A broad curriculum at Key Stage Three aims to ensure that pupils are sufficiently stretched and supported, so that they are able to successfully transition to Key Stage Four. Mixed ability teaching throughout Key Stage Four ensures that student expectations are not limited and Disadvantaged Learners have access to equal opportunities and outcomes.
- Both written and verbal feedback has a clear focus on improving and developing students' ability to understand the course requirements. Staff, through their written and verbal feedback, will challenge any misconceptions relating to the students work and will offer 1:1 support to pupils so they are able to identify any areas strength and weakness to push students forward in their outcomes.
- In the Art & Design Technology departments staff will build in relevant projects with repeated practice to ensure progression and the opportunity for each student to maximise their achievement and improve long-term memory in regards to skill building. Through the schools' assessment cycle students will be assessed periodically on their ability and progress dependent upon the course they study. This may take form of both practical and written assessments. The use of exemplar material and model answers will help students to gain an understanding into what the exam boards require and how they can achieve through hard work and determination.
- Staff will aim to reduce subject specific barriers such as the purchasing of specialist materials, equipment or ingredients if required; providing access to high quality teaching and learning. When such materials are applied to their learning students are able to share their achievements through the practical work they make. We aim to include first-hand experience to broaden opportunities and provide experiences outside of the classroom. Engagement tasks and cultural lessons will enhance students' learning journey and broaden their knowledge and understanding of the wider world. This is clear through the involvement and exploration of food from various cultures and exploring a wide variety of artists and designers.
- Students will be provided with opportunities to recognise the value of the creative subjects and the essential skills that they are developing as a result of their chosen qualification. The nature of all courses within the departments is fundamentally practical and will enhance lifelong skills. Additionally, students will be informed of the career options available to them and have the opportunity to display their work as part of the school's annual exhibition to celebrate their success.